

The Middlebury Campus

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Construction Begins for New Townhouses

By Ethan Brady
Staff Writer

The College's plan to build a new residential complex on the western edge of campus has been approved by the Town of Middlebury's Development Review Board (DRB). Workers began logging and clearing the site on Wednesday, Sept. 23. They plan to install foundations for all four buildings and have vertical construction underway by Nov. 15. The residences, which will house 158 students, are scheduled to be completed and ready to use by the 2016 fall semester.

The site lies on a four-acre parcel of Ridgeline Woods, west of Adirondack View and north of Ridgeline Road. Three of the buildings will be townhouse units along Adirondack View, and the fourth will be a suite-style apartment further down the Ridgeline slope.

Associate Dean of Students for Residential and Student Life Douglas Adams said that completing the residences, which are intended for seniors, will allow the College to raze the modular complex ("The Mods") below Ridgeline. By doing so, the College hopes to reduce the number of students living off-campus. Currently, four percent of the

student body currently resides in housing not associated with the College.

The three townhouse complexes will each include four townhouse units. Each unit will have three levels of living space with eight single bedrooms that contain full-size beds.

The current plans for the townhouses do not include elevators. As such, only the first floor in each building will be wheelchair accessible. The suite-style apartment has a small common space that, per fire code, cannot accommodate all of the apartment's residents at one time.

"The townhouse design, while charming, is frankly irresponsible," said Eliza Margolin '15, an architectural studies major. "When I asked last year why only the first floor will be wheelchair accessible, project representatives said that the 'charm' of the townhouses lies in the fact that they are separate from their next-door neighbors, and that adding elevators would sacrifice this 'charm.' Middlebury already faces a lack of physical access to residences. Adding more housing with the same accessibility restrictions is not only impractical

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MICHAEL O'HARA

Backhoes cleared the way for construction of the new ridgeline residence to begin on Adirondack View. Trees were cleared and houses were levelled for the College's largest residence project in recent years.

Applied Liberal Arts Courses Bring Industry Professionals to Classroom

By Phil Bohlman and
Eliza Teach
News Editors

Building off of the past two decades of the Executive-in-Residence Program, this fall marked the introduction of the Professors of the Practice Program, created by President Emeritus Ronald D. Liebowitz and directed by Distinguished College Professor David Colander. This program offers an opportunity for professionals

to come in and teach courses on a variety of applied liberal arts. While the Professors of the Practice program offers a wide range of interdepartmental courses, a subset are notably business oriented, including courses that teach accounting, management and in the future, finance.

According to Colander, business and accounting oriented courses having deep roots in the history of the College, roots that extend to ties with the Econom-

ics Department.

"If you go back a long history to the 40's and 50's, DK Smith, who is remembered by a lot of alumni, taught accounting for a long time but as economics became more of a social science and more formal, it moved away from that relationship. That occurred in the 60's, 70's and 80's," said Colander.

"We tried to maintain that connection between the real world and economics and still

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BLACK STUDENTS UNION RELEASES STATEMENT FOLLOWING VANDALISM

By Christian Jambora and
Caroline Agsten
News Editors

Hours after being hung in Proctor and Ross Dining Halls on Saturday, Sept. 26, the posters created by the Black Student Union (BSU) were vandalized by an unknown party.

The first poster was discovered and brought to the attention of BSU Board Members that afternoon. A second was found that evening. The defacements were then covered up, but more were found on a poster in Proctor Dining Hall the following morning.

In response to the vandalism, the BSU released an official statement that quickly spread across social media on Sunday, Sept. 27. It stated the following:

Last night, after an affirming and productive BSU Board Retreat, our board went off to the dining halls for dinner, only to find that the posters we had recently hung up had been vandalized: two people had seen our posters proudly advocating for the black community at

Middlebury, and decided that this advocacy offended them. "RACIST," they wrote. "Promotes Hate!" The next morning we came back to eat breakfast and saw that others had added to the vandalization with more comments.

When our board saw these posters, we felt angry, violated and disappointed. This kind of response to black empowerment, solidarity and community-building is not new, at Middlebury or in the nation at large. Accusations of "reverse racism" are common forms of protecting the status quo — that is, white supremacy — and indicate a complete lack of understanding about how racism has operated and continues to operate in this country. Racism is a system of advantage based on race. When only 3% of Middlebury's student body is black, the BSU is a form of resistance to racism.

More than anything, these comments on our posters are a testament to how much work still needs to be done at Middlebury in support of racial justice education. When students at this school see three raised

fists on a poster and decide that this is racism — instead of the microaggressions that happen here every day, or the constant threat black folks face from police throughout the country — we have a problem.

As for us? BSU will continue to do our work in creating and nurturing space for black students at Middlebury. We will keep hanging our posters up in the dining hall. We too are Middlebury students. We are, always have been, and always will be unapologetically black.

Formerly known as the African-American Alliance (AAA), the BSU was formed to represent the concerns and interests of black students and persons of color at the College. According to the organization's Facebook page, their goal is to provide "a safe place for students to discuss and celebrate issues of diversity and intersectional identity." The decision to change the organization's name was done so to make the group more accessible and inclusive.

The BSU declined to comment further on the matter.



RAHCHEL FRANK

Chalk statements reading "I stand w/ Jane" appeared outside Mead Chapel on Sept. 24. See "Students Protest Doe's Return," page 12.

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SGA
UPDATEBy Tess Weitzner
SGA Correspondent &
Staff Writer

The SGA senate meeting on Sept. 27 opened with a discussion and vote on the new schedule and location of Coffee Hour. It will now occur in Proctor Lounge on Tuesdays at 9 p.m. Coffee Hour is intended to be an accessible forum for students to have casual conversation with SGA members about the state of student life. It is required in a bylaw that SGA members attend at least three sessions per semester.

President Ilana Gratch '16 provided updates on the development of Open Conversations, a new SGA practice aimed at creating opportunities for direct conversations on pressing issues between the SGA and administrators. Suggested topics included sexual assault policies, housing policies, issues of race on campus, student mental health and the ongoing efforts to reform the AAL distribution requirement. It was also suggested that surveying students could be valuable in sourcing improvements for the SGA.

"Ilana is hoping to bring current and relevant issues into the Crest Room by allowing students, faculty, and staff to voice their opinions once a month through Open Conversations," said Chief of Staff Michael Brady '17.5.

The meeting continued with the crew team's budget proposal for the 2015-2016 year, presented by Treasurer Aaron de Toledo '16. After it was discussed at length, there was a vote, and the budget of \$32,485 was approved. It passed with 8 affirming, 3 dissenting and 1 abstaining. The budget prompted a discussion on the SGA would manage funding for club sports in the future. "The SGA is tasked with finding a way to fund club sports in a manner that's equitable and sustainable, while still enabling the teams to function," said Brady.

The meeting was turned over to Senior Senator Reshma Goginehi '16, who led a discussion on possible improvements for CCI Seminars. Senators debated whether more seminars should be available for first-year students, and if seminars should be mandatory.

It was announced that next week, Brandon Gell '16 will speak with the SGA about his two-year project aimed at creating a space where students can find relief from academic pressures in nature. Gell has already raised more than \$10,000 and hopes to appeal to the SGA for more funding. Prior to the Sept. 27 meeting, Brady and Gratch introduced a bill to alter the bylaws to allow the president to appoint Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Social Affairs to their cabinet. The bill passed, and Carolyn Murphy '17.5 was appointed Deputy Chief of Staff and Nan Philip '16.5 was appointed Director of Social Affairs.

MCAB's WHAT'S
HAPPENING AT
MIDDLEBURY?Free Friday Film:
"Inside Out" (2015)

Like all of us, Riley is guided by her emotions – Joy, Fear, Anger, Disgust and Sadness. The emotions live in Headquarters, the control center inside Riley's mind, where they help advise her through everyday life.

FRIDAY AT 6 P.M. AND 9 P.M. IN DANA AUDITORIUM

Roller Rink

Bring your family and roller skate around the McCullough Social Space! A great way to end a night on the town.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AT 9 P.M. IN WILSON HALL

Yoga with Chelsea

Join friends for a yoga session led by Chelsea Colby '17.5!

TUESDAY AT 9 P.M. IN WILSON HALL

Trustee Governance Aims for Efficiency

By Caroline Agsten
News Editor

Members of the Middlebury Board of Trustees arrived on campus this past weekend to attend the annual fall trustee meeting. The meeting marks the second year that the board's new governance structure has been in effect.

For some students, the role of the Board in daily campus life is nebulous. For others, especially those interested in the College's investments and those who are in more constant contact with trustees, the board's impact is more apparent.

"The board does a lot of things that students care about, but students may not know that the board is involved in the first place," said Chair of the Board of Trustees Marna C. Whittington.

According to the College, the Board of Trustees "holds ultimate legal and fiduciary responsibility for all assets and operations of Middlebury College, the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (MIIS), the Middlebury Language Schools and Schools Abroad, the Bread Loaf School of English, the Bread Loaf Writers Conference, and all other Middlebury schools, programs, centers and institutes." Such responsibilities include the authority to hire and dismiss the president of the College, setting the College's financial strategy and budget, advising on capital projects and maintaining the final decision on tenure.

In light of the board's essential role to the College as a corporation, an effective struc-

ture for board governance is essential. The announcement of President Emeritus Ronald D. Leibowitz's plan to step down came in concert with the conclusion of a yearlong process to review and revise the board's governance structure.

"Nothing was necessarily broken, but we wanted to step back and ask ourselves, if we were to build a governance program starting today, what would it look like?" said Whittington. A number of recommendations and bylaws were passed in December of 2013 and implemented in July of 2014.

There were both structural and procedural changes to the College's governance system. Whittington noted that one of the largest shortcomings of the old system was the imbalance in committees overseeing its various business units. Chief among the changes to address this issue was the reduction of the number of standing committees from 15 to five. Now, the role of these committees is to assume responsibility for all substantive issues across all of the College's campuses and programs.

In addition to these specific standing committees, the board also voted to create three boards of overseers for the College, the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (MIIS), and the "Schools," which include the Language Schools, Bread Loaf School of English, and Schools Abroad. Each board of overseers is charged with reviewing and monitoring the educational offerings and student life under their respective jurisdiction.

The membership of these committees

also changed. "Before, we didn't have proper constituent representatives. Now we have a student representative, a faculty and a staff on each of the board of overseers," said Whittington.

In addition to constituent representation, a partner overseer is also appointed to each board. "They aren't full trustees, but they are subject matter experts in some way," said Whittington. "For instance, the superintendent of the local school district is coming on as a partner overseer to the College overseers... They have interest in giving their professional expertise to the process of Middlebury."

Procedural changes to the governance included the implementation of new rules of engagement: how meetings are to be conducted and how trustees are to work with one another. Under the new governance structure, one trustee may not hold more than one leadership position. This created 16 vacancies in various trustee leadership positions, which required "more people to step up and spread the engagement," said Whittington.

Despite the collective positive effects of these changes, some significant challenges have already appeared after a year of implementation. "I think one of the biggest challenges is that our trustees now are very aware of what they don't know. Before they were in their committees and didn't have that insight," said Whittington. Another challenge is overcoming the time creep and enlisting younger and more diverse trustees to join the board.

Student Townhouses to be Ready Fall 2016

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cal, but irresponsible and inappropriate."

The architectural design firm for the project, Union Studio, is based in Providence, Rhode Island. Kirchhoff Campus Properties, the company to whom the College has leased the parcel and will construct the residences, is based in Pleasant Valley, New York, near New York City. In establishing the terms of this project, the College has outsourced the majority of human capital involved in design and construction to beyond Vermont's borders. The town of Middlebury is home to several design firms, including Vermont Integrated Architecture and McLeod Kredell Architects, as well as contractors, including Battell Building Company and Mill Bridge Construction, which the College employed in 2014 to build the maintenance and storage facility at the Snow Bowl in Ripton.

"I think outsourcing this project to out-of-state companies is neglecting our exceptional economic position in the state of Vermont," said Colin Boyle '18, an economics major. "It seems to go against the values of students and of the institution itself. It is disappointing that we didn't take this opportunity to support the local

economy given that we've worked with Vermont-based companies in the past."

Furthermore, the College's agreement with Kirchhoff Campus Properties specifies that the land be leased by the College. As a result, the buildings will be owned exclusively by Kirchhoff. Also under the agreement, the College will not require the developer to seek LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council for the buildings.

"This was a much discussed decision for both the College and the developer, and it was mainly based on the cost to the developer—which, in the final analysis, is a cost to the College," said Tom McGinn, the project manager for the Ridgeline residences.

There is precedent at Middlebury for sustainable building: the Franklin Environmental Center and the College's squash center currently hold LEED Platinum status, and Virtue Field House holds LEED Gold. Nonetheless, Kirchhoff Campus Properties, with consent from the College, will not need to seek LEED certification of any level for the complex.

In April 2006, President Emeritus Ronald Liebowitz commissioned a committee to develop a master strategic plan for the College, which was the first of its

kind in the College's history. The committee hired an urban planning firm, Michael Dennis & Associates, based in Boston, to assist in devising the comprehensive document. The plan was approved in July 2008 by the Board of Trustees, and charged future leaders of the College with responsible design and construction practices. The plan recommends the adoption of the LEED MC-Plus guidelines system for all renovation and new construction projects, of which the Ridgeline project would be one. The plan also calls for future residential construction to "create a cohesive vision for a universally accessible campus for people of all ages and abilities."

"The current construction on Ridgeline seems ad hoc, ill-advised, and inconsistent with the explicit protocol of the master plan," said Miles Tyner '18, a member of Architecture Table. "If our current leaders are not going to follow the plan, what's the use of having devised it?"

"Overall, the way the College has gone about this project seems like one missed opportunity after another," said Margolin. "Most of all, by leasing out the land to another company, they sacrificed the opportunity for student input in the design process."



MICHAEL O'HARA

A backhoe clears logs at the site for the new Ridgeline townhouse residences, scheduled to be completed next fall.

Classes Merge Business Skills and Liberal Arts

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be the best economics department we could be. But most economics professors were not trained in business so we moved essentially away from that."

That being said, the department still maintained a number of professors designed to teach the real world applications of economics including recently retired Emeritus Faculty Fellow at the Center for Education in Action, Scott Pardee. Pardee, who had a background in finance and had been a Senior Vice President at the Federal Reserve, took over from the previous professor who had been teaching an academically focused Corporate Finance course. As traditional economics courses moved away from a financial focus, Pardee started to teach courses that were primarily designed to send people to Wall Street.

"[This trajectory] really didn't fit what a lot of people in the economics department thought should be taught; they had no problem with students learning corporate finance as an academic subject, but they didn't see it as a step directly to Wall Street," Colander said. "You want students thinking about the broader issues as well as learning the specifics of finance and accounting. So as I have tried to reintroduce the courses, the goal has been to see that they have a liberal arts connection."

Liberal Arts and the Workplace

Some of the business specific courses in The Professors of the Practice Program are being offered in response to a widespread student interest in finance, and the need to fill the void left by Pardee.

"Alumni and Trustees said we should be offering courses [in finance], so we looked for somebody who could provide the general accounting and finance backgrounds," Colander said. Then we thought about what other possibilities there were, and we talked to and drew people from MiddCORE and connected with the center for social entrepreneurship about where we could find individuals."

"We're lucky that we have found some great practitioners who understand the need to maintain a liberal arts perspective in the courses," he continued.

From a business and finance perspective, three courses stick out in the course catalog including: INTD 0220 "Management, Enterprise and Business," INTD 0221 "Enterprise, Social Entrepreneurship and the Liberal Arts," and INTD 0316 "Accounting, Budgeting and the Liberal Arts," and INTD 0317 "Introduction to Finance" will be offered in the spring of 2016.

Beyond the core courses, Colander spoke to a few courses to be occasionally offered under this program. One such course, INTD 0251 "Sounds of Childhood," taught by Professor of the Practice Erin Davis, focuses on early childhood development and podcasts while Professor of the Practice Roger White is offering a course teaching the basics of putting together a literary magazine in INTD/HARC "Producing a Literary Magazine".

Professor of the Practice Michael Schozer, who has an extensive background in financial services, teaches the accounting course offered this semester.

"The accounting and budgeting course is not narrowly teaching only accounting specifics; rather it has a focus of thinking more broadly about how accounting sets the framework through which one thinks," said Colander.

Schozer spoke to two ways that the liberal arts perspective is incorporated into his curriculum: projects and guest speakers.

"One of the team projects students can choose is to be Medicins Sans Frontieres," Schozer said. "A contagious disease outbreak has occurred and the team



COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

The Center for Careers & Internships (CCI) helps students find internship and career opportunities, many of which are finance- and consulting-focused.

needs to forecast the outbreak, estimate response costs, develop a response budget and make a presentation to potential funders of the response."

"In terms of guest speakers, we will be looking into financial issues in public finance, with a focus on the City of Chicago," he continued. "What role does accounting and disclosure play in allowing municipalities to get into financial trouble, are there hidden costs and obligations that are not fully disclosed to the public, and what role do politicians play in that disclosure?"

Management and Enterprise

The management course is taught by Dr. Amitava Biswas. Colander spoke to the importance of management as what he calls one of the ultimate liberal arts.

"You think of deans here, or the President — what they're doing is management. Most students will end up managing no matter what they majoring in. In order to manage students need communication and teamwork skills. You need a whole variety of skills which are really what we are teaching in the liberal arts," said Colander.

This course focuses on both the history and development of management theory, and then bridges off into practical management techniques. Biswas noted that beyond Colander's contributions in helping students see connection in management to the liberal arts, they are also hoping to discuss cross cultural management and business ethics in the class.

As in the accounting course, Biswas will bring in a bevy of guest lecturers. A recruiter from McKinsey & Co. has already spoken to the class about management consulting. Cairn Cross, founder of Fresh Tracks Capital, (the largest venture capital fund in Vermont) will lecture on entrepreneurial management style.

There is also a lab component to the class in which students engage in Harvard Business School case studies and present analyses to their peers. Biswas

views this as a way to teach students the succinct style of communication valued in business while also encouraging them to think creatively about real world problems that organizations encounter.

Biswas has encountered his own learning curve as a new teacher. At first the way he ran his class resembled the way he had operated in the professional world: he communicated in a style that emphasized conciseness and clarity, but did not know how inspire discussion for its own sake.

"[Discussion is] a lot of fun. It makes the class much more lively," said Biswas. "I think I'm going to be a lot better of a teacher this year than I was last year. I really appreciate the talent that it takes to be an effective teacher, I've seen how difficult it is ... There are so many resources that are available at Middlebury to help somebody like me, who has a limited teaching background, be a better teacher. It's fantastic."

Biswas graduated from Stanford Medical School, but forewent a traditional career in medicine after he was recruited by McKinsey. In the last 15 years he worked extensively in Southeast Asia, advising corporations looking to expand in the region and assisting startups in need of professional management.

Biswas sees liberal arts graduates as being progressively more attractive hires for consulting firms. Though the soft skills learned in a non-technical course of study — writing, reading, analyzing — are not as useful in entry level positions in the business world, he argued that they become increasingly important in senior roles.

"The way I see what I'm doing in my management class is not so much that I'm trying to get across a set of information that nobody else is giving you. What I see myself doing is trying to show how the things that you've been doing in your liberal arts education is actually very relevant to the business world that you could be going into," said Biswas.

More Options for the Student

Colander stresses that these are not pre-professional courses.

"Most everybody finds themselves in a situation where they have to lead people, they have to solve problems, they have to manage people and they have to fit together — well that is what these courses are — they are applied liberal arts courses, not in any sense pre-professional," said Colander.

"I emphasize that these courses are applied liberal arts courses, the lab courses of the liberal arts. They are pre-professional or direct skill training in the same way any course is; they teach students to communicate, to work together and to write — those are the skills any job wants people to have — so in just about every liberal arts course we're teaching skills."

The courses are offered as interdisciplinary in order to keep them from being narrowed into specific departmental silos. In terms of the future development of the program, Colander sees the potential of a certain subset of these courses comprising some sort of minor. However, he notes that it is not for him to decide. In addition, Colander envisions a potential stipulation preventing people from minoring in this area if they were already an Economics major.

Colander said, "The goal is to give students the option of majoring in whatever area they would like to — art history, music, history, sociology. All too often students choose to major in economics not because they love economics, but because they see it as a signal to employers that they are interested, and have the skills employers are looking for."

He emphasized that a minor in these Professor of the Practice courses would offer students an alternative to majoring in economics in that you could take these courses and combine them with any of our majors and still signal to employers that you have an interest and some training in the skills they consider important.

"The reality is that most businesses want people who are broad, diverse and have different interests; that's why they recruit at liberal arts schools," said Colander. "They see too many Economics majors; a student with a different major who has also taken courses in finance, accounting, management is in many ways more interesting to them."

"The reality is that most businesses want people who are broad, diverse and have different interests; that's why they recruit at liberal arts schools."

DAVID COLANDER
DISTINGUISHED COLLEGE PROFESSOR

The State of Marriage Debuts in Burlington

By Harry Cramer
Local Editor

On Apr. 7, 2009, legislators at the Vermont Statehouse in Montpelier cast an historic vote legalizing gay marriage in Vermont.

"Those voting yes, 100. Those voting no, 49. One hundred—needed to pass, you have voted to override the veto," announced Representative Shap Smith (D). The courtroom erupted in applause and cheering.

The story behind this legal battle began decades ago, under the leadership of Vermont lawyers Beth Robinson and Susan Murray, and prominent civil-rights attorney Mary Bonato. In *Baker v. Vermont* (1999), the trio clinched a unanimous court decision striking down a statute that barred gay couples from marriage. The ruling paved the way for civil unions, and eventually gay marriage in 2009. *The State of Marriage*, a new documentary that debuted at Burlington's Main Street Landing explores the momentous accomplishment.

By 1996, activists had successfully mounted a campaign for gay marriage in Hawaii. However, an initial victory in the courts was nullified by a popular referendum in 1998. In light of this, the Vermont lawyers realized they had to win in three different arenas: "The court of public opinion, and also in the courts and also politically as well," said Director Jeffrey Kaufman in an interview with Vermont Public Radio (VPR).

The group of lawyers had been preparing their legal arguments for decades.

"Susan was involved in her first LGBT family rights lawsuit in the late 1980s," explained Kaufman. "Mary Bonato was one of the pioneers of the marriage equality movement. So they

were laying the groundwork for this years before."

However, just three years before *Baker v. Vermont*, the federal government passed the Defense of Marriage Act. Popularly known as DOMA, the federal legislation defined marriage as a union between a man and a woman, allowing states to refuse to recognize homosexual couples married out-of-state.

Some gay rights activists condemned the grassroots effort as reckless and unrealistic. They argued that pushing for civil unions before other legal victories, like workplace security or anti-discrimination legislation, was pointless.

SUSAN MURRAY
CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEY

However, the critics were proven wrong. In a unanimous decision, The Supreme Court of Vermont ruled that to exclude the same-sex couple of Stan Baker and Peter Harrigan from the benefits of marriage was in violation of the state constitution.

"This is the first time that any state has not only recognized that same sex families exist, but for the first time has recognized that they have the same needs and deserve the same protections and rights as all other couples," explained Susan Murray, referring to the legal victory in *Baker v. Vermont*.

"That's a first. That's a legal and cultural milestone," she added.

Ultimately, it is difficult to overemphasize the immensity of the legal victory in 2000. At the time, *The New York Times* called the civil unions "same-sex marriages" in almost everything but the

"Other states, and actually other countries, were influenced by what happened in Vermont."

JEFFREY KAUFMAN
DIRECTOR OF THE STATE OF MARRIAGE

such a progressive reputation. Yet the conservative backlash to the ruling was intense. After the court victory in 1999, a campaign known as "Take Back Vermont" emerged, with signs popping up in barns, houses and along streets across Vermont. Opposition groups became much more vocal, and rhetoric in oppo-



Episcopal priest Stan Baker hugs attorney Susan Murray as the Legislature overrode Jim Douglas' veto in 2009, formally legalizing gay marriage in Vermont.

sition more heated.

The battle even had ramifications in the statehouse. Although Democratic candidate Howard Dean won the gubernatorial race, the Republican party rode a wave of popular discontentment over the decision and retook the majority in the House of Representatives.

"A number of politicians, when it came to voting for civil unions, ended up doing the right thing," explained Kaufman in an interview, "even though they knew it would end up costing them their seats."

The polemics are on full display in the documentary.

"One of the things we tried to do in the film," said Kaufman, "is very respectfully capture both sides of the argument. We have a number of the very fierce opponents to marriage equality and civil unions, in the film."

Many of these critics still rally against gay marriage nationally, which is one reason that co-producer Marcia Ross feels the film is so necessary.

"It's important to have a sense of that vision to spark further change and inspiration for the future," she said.

Tour de Farms Traverses New Course

By Alessandria Schumacher
Local Editor

This past Saturday, Sept. 26, the Tour de Farms bike ride kicked into gear with a new route including more of the northeastern part of Addison County. Now in its eighth year, the Tour de Farms is an annual 37-mile bike ride around the Vermont countryside that stops at various farms, features local foods and benefits Addison County Relocalization Network (ACORN), a local non-profit.

The ride began at the recreation fields behind Mt. Abraham Union High School. The ACORN website suggests bikers plan at least five hours for the ride, which includes ten minutes at each stop, though many may want to stay at the farms longer.

At the start, there were two tents set up for registration. Representatives from two local bike shops were there as well, ready to provide free assistance to anyone who needed bike repairs along the way.

Noah Klammer '17 volunteered at

the start before doing the ride himself.

"I was actually signed up to just do set-up on that very morning, so that was like 7 to 8, so as it turned out, the ride didn't start till 8:30 or 9 anyway, so I helped with parking," Klammer said.

"We had a lot of cars," Klammer added, "which was kind of cool, because ... people were hanging out, and not really tail-gating, but hanging out, fixing up bikes [and] talking."

As bikers started out on their ride, they headed north from Bristol up through Monkton and soon left the pavement behind for gravel roads. The ACORN website specifies that 13 miles of the ride will be on gravel road and suggests—in all capital letters—that bikers use "a mountain bike, hybrid bike or road bike with

wide tires."

"The terrain is hilly with a mix of paved and dirt roads so a mountain bike or road bike with wide tires is recommended," explained ACORN in a press release.

Sophie Vaughan '17 seemed to appreciate the varied terrain and views



Bikes await their riders who sampled local foods at the eight farms along the route.

along the ride.

"It was gorgeous. The ride had a lot of different landscapes. At one point we were sort of riding along the base of the mountain in Bristol, at other times we were passing rivers, and other times we were seeing mountains in the distance," Vaughan said.

This route was different than that of the past seven years. The old route used

to go out by Shoreham and spend more

time on paved roads. Traffic was more of a problem since riders spent more time on the narrow shoulders of fast-paced roads.

"This was a great route because I think they really planned it so that you can take back roads. You're on gravel about half the time," Klammer said.

"People come from all over New England. I was talking to a guy who came all the way up from Boston just for the day."

SOPHIE VAUGHAN '17

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Students Tackle 37-Mile Ride

Traffic wasn't really an issue, which made it really fun to just ride and not be worried about that."

Not only did the new route keep bikers off busy roads, it Klammer, using his arms to show the north-south orientation of Routes 7 and 116 and pointing to the area in between. "Most of New Haven is actually east of [Route 7]."

Along the ride, bikers stopped at a total of eight different farms. There they had the chance to sample different foods and drinks from 18 different farms and restaurants. Various businesses set up

food from vegetables to apple cider and cider donuts ... at one station they had these maple donuts with cream - maple cream - on them, which I very much enjoyed. A lot of good roasted vegetables," said Vaughan as she recalled all the delicious foods she had tasted.

"If this was like Top Chef, you know, I'd rate it 'Most Creative,'" Klammer said, referring to one of his favorite foods along the ride. "At one of the farms - where they raise vegetables and they raise pigs - they had ... pulled pork in coleslaw, but it was in a collard green

the event. Several students were among them. Bike and food enthusiast also came from far and wide - at least a few hours - for this event.

"People come from all over New England," commented Vaughan. "I was talking to a guy who came all the way up from Boston just for the day."

Every year, the Tour de Farms requires the help of at least 20 volunteers on the day of the event. In exchange for giving their time, volunteers, such as Vaughan and Klammer, get to ride for free. For the majority of riders who did not volunteer at the event, the cost of registration is \$35 in advance or \$55 the day of. All proceeds benefit ACORN and the farms.

According to the ACORN website, 25 percent of the fees for registration go to the farm partners. Various businesses also sponsor the race. The Tour de Farms is ACORN's major annual fundraiser.

According to the home page of their website, "ACORN's mission is to cultivate connections that promote the production and use of healthy, local food in Addison County, Vermont."

"We are working with growers, schools, businesses and community and statewide partners to double the consumption of locally-grown food by 2020," stated the press release about the event. ACORN takes a project-based ap-

proach to tackling issues of local, healthy food production and consumption. They provide mentoring, networking and financial support for those who have a project idea in line with their mission.

Many people seemed to be having a jolly time participating in the event and supporting a good cause.

"It was really nice to see the fall color change and just spend a Saturday outside, six hours or so, riding a bike, enjoying the community with people beyond the Middlebury campus," Vaughan said.

"100 percent," said Klammer when asked whether he would do it again. "I've been trying to encourage people to look into it. I think one thing is people [students] are reluctant to pay any kind of entry fee, like being at Middlebury where we get so much free stuff ... But also you can do what Sophie and I did ... They usually need a couple dozen volunteers, and then that's a way you can ride for free."

"The Tour is a one-of-a-kind experience," said Jonathan Corcoran, ACORN's Executive Director, in a press release. "People keep coming back to share a relaxing day with family and friends to experience the flavors of the fall harvest, the beauty of the land and its fall colors and the great people who make our local food community special."



SOPHIE VAUGHAN

The bikers traveled to eight different farms, which provided a variety of local foods.

stands at the farms where the bikers did stop.

Farmers and businesses hailed mainly from Bristol, Monkton, New Haven and Hinesburg.

"You eat a lot of different types of

wrap. It was kind of a challenge ... the leaf was really, really thick and you had to wrap it up, but it was kind of good! It was kind of like eating the pork inside of a coleslaw."

About 300 people participated in

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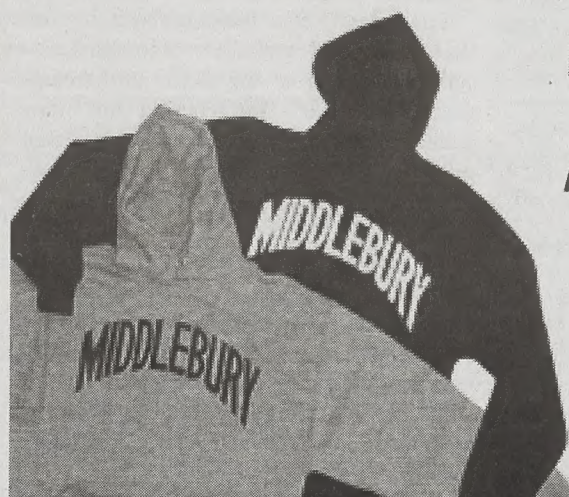
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OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Disrupt the Finance Pipeline

Finance. A profitable, secure industry – alluring to many. But often the source of allure begins and ends with just that – security and profit. This year's recruiting

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of *The Middlebury Campus*.

on this annual tradition, we wonder – do Middlebury students apply to be analysts

season for the financial industry has already begun. Many students are scheduling interviews and marking information sessions on their calendars. However, after further reflection

and investment bankers because they actually want those jobs, or because they are afraid to do something else?

One thing is for sure – students are taking the jobs. According to the CCI, 24 percent of employed students in the class of 2015 went into financial services – nearly one-fourth of the graduates. That is a ten point jump from the next-highest industry, education. Big financial institutions are actively seeking out Middlebury students, and we seem to be jumping at the chance. The result is a campus-to-finance pipeline that we believe has become too normalized in this community.

Many students pursue careers in finance with sincere motivations. We recognize that some students have a genuine passion for the work itself. We understand that others are motivated by financial security and the flexibility it affords later in life. Many students spend a few compulsory years on Wall Street before pivoting toward their dream job. For those whose parents cannot support them, who are graduating with debt from student loans or who may shoulder the responsibility of providing for others, the appeal of a lucrative career is entirely understandable. The economic incentive offered by the financial industry is significant, and we understand and respect the variety of reasons that students may want (or need) to seek it.

But there is an alarming trend that we as an editorial board have observed: many students gravitate toward finance by default. Some attend information sessions because finance “looks good” – the reputation is prestigious and the salary is hard to turn down. Other students may seek refuge in the financial industry because it offers structure and protection, even if the field has little (or nothing) to do with what they care about.

It is true that careers in finance are highly marketable and that students of elite colleges are often well positioned to seek them. Students may fear that the value of their liberal arts education is too nebulous for employers to appreciate. The prospect of entering the “real world” can be frightening, and the reassuring sense of struc-

ture provided by a collegiate system is mirrored in the realm of finance. But anxiety is not a healthy reason to pursue a particular career. We as an editorial board worry that such anxiety has become a pervasive decision-making factor.

This is not a phenomenon unique to Middlebury; it is a consistent pattern across prestigious colleges. As New Republic contributor and former Yale professor William Deresiewicz writes, “The irony is that elite students are told they can be whatever they want, but most of them end up choosing to be one of a few very similar things.” In his piece entitled, “How Wall Street takes advantage of the Ivy League’s failures,” Vox Media founder Ezra Klein writes, “What Wall Street figured out is that colleges are producing a large number of very smart, completely confused graduates. Kids who have ample mental horsepower, incredible work ethics and no idea what to do next. So the finance industry takes advantage that confusion, attracting students who never intended to work in finance, but don’t have any better ideas about where to go.”

This tendency to default into finance stems from our conventionally academic, high-achieving roots. As Deresiewicz writes, “So extreme are the admission standards now that kids who manage to get into elite colleges have, by definition, never experienced anything but success. The prospect of not being successful terrifies them, disorients them.” Middlebury students have been conditioned both to achieve and to seek environments that protect achievers. It would be difficult to argue against the degree of security that the financial industry is able to offer. But students sometimes forgo their true passions in the name of that security.

We encourage students with a more general interest in the field to reflect thoughtfully on why. Middlebury students are exactly the kind of young people who should embrace a variety of post-graduate ambitions. Our liberal arts education has given us the ability to think critically and imaginatively about the world around us. We are taught to follow our passions, view the status quo with a healthy dose of skep-

ticism and embrace uncertainty. Liberal arts students – the ones whose education is characterized by critical thinking – ought not to mindlessly gravitate toward investment banking.

We are calling on the school to meet students halfway. The Center for Careers and Internships (CCI) should expand their offerings to include more opportunities that deviate from the finance track. Though the CCI is not to blame for the prevalence of financial recruitment at Middlebury, they could certainly do more to increase the prevalence of other sectors. Take, for example, MiddNet – the site to which the CCI has referred many job-seeking students. While there is a bounty of contacts listed under finance and consulting, there are few – or, in some cases, no – contacts in fields like government, journalism and the arts. Available opportunities on MOJO paint a similar picture. Our editorial board was overwhelmed by stories of disappointed students searching for such jobs and finding an absence of results.

The editorial board sees a growing need for Middlebury graduates to reach out and recruit current students for fields other than finance. While we greatly appreciate the efforts of alumni currently on MiddNet, we feel that if employees from firms, newspapers, non-profits – groups other than, say, Goldman Sachs, which already has a finite recruitment process – raised their voices, their call would be met with a slew of job applications.

We urge students to be in charge of their own futures. Whether you end up an analyst, an AmeriCorps volunteer or somewhere in between, we encourage you to make your choice with consideration and care. We, as Middlebury students, are equipped to seek and value a variety of career paths, including – and especially – the less obvious and linear choices. If you are passionate about a career in finance, by all means pursue it. And if you are less excited about a future in banking, reach out for help (from a friend, an alum, a professor or the internet) in navigating the realm of alternative possibilities. Don’t drift toward the obvious possibility blindly.

The Middlebury Campus

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Just a Reminder That Rape is Punishable by Jail Time

I have been thinking a lot about sexual assault lately – and I’m sure I’m not the only one – given the recent John Doe case. Within the past week, the case has gotten

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Alessandria Schumacher '17 is a Local Editor from Northampton, MA.

even more attention: comments on *The Campus* editorial online, an article by a Brooklyn College professor called “Weaponizing Title IX at Middlebury” and GO/DOE.

I have realized in thinking about the case that my natural reaction is to imagine myself in the place of the victim and to empathize with her – the reaction that many college students probably take, at least publicly. Lately, however, I’ve found myself imagining what it would be like to be the accused.

As I have been thinking about the case from John’s perspective, I keep imagining: “What would it be like to have my whole college career at stake?” Three years of hard work, time spent at this place, friendships, my life, a huge aspect of my identity, something I take pride in – all ended in an instant.

And what to show for it? The accusation of a crime, three ‘wasted’ years, maybe a few friends I’ll keep in touch with and my high school diploma as my highest form of education. That sounds absolutely horrible and life-changing to me – the idea

that I’ve majorly derailed my future, let down my family, wasted \$180,000 of tuition and I’ve made a lot of enemies. In this hypothetical situation, perhaps I’m guilty, and I deserved it. Perhaps I’m innocent and no one will ever believe me. Taking the step to expel someone is, in fact, a really big deal and will inevitably cause “irreparable harm.” But I kept thinking.

Back up one month. It is late August, I’m home for a few weeks in Northampton, Massachusetts, just a 30 minute drive from UMass Amherst. Most days when I was home, I’d find the local newspaper on the kitchen table. One story that never seemed to go away was the trial of four men accused of raping a woman at UMass back in the fall of 2012, my senior year of high school. The story was all over the news then, but over the past several months, the individual trials and sentencing of the four men have been on-going and frankly hard to miss.

At this point, Emmanuel T. Bile Jr., Justin A. King and Adam T. Liccardi – all 21 – have been convicted. Bile and King have been sentenced, Liccardi will be sentenced on October 6 and Caleb Womack age 20 – who still pleads innocent – will go on trial this month. The sentences: eight to ten years in prison for Bile and eight to twelve years in prison for King. Now that is life-changing.

But that’s what our court system has decided. We could go on all day about particular similarities and differences between the UMass Rape Case and John Doe, but that is irrelevant to my point. In short, outside this world of judicial systems and community standards, 18-year-olds who

commit rape can be sent to jail. John Doe – regardless of innocence or guilt – will never have the chance to see the inside of a jail cell, unless the actual substance of this case is ever taken to the real courts. Bile, King, and possibly the others will spend the next decade in jail without ever having started college, with their real names making it all the way to the Huffington Post and the Boston Globe, and probably no hope of an \$85,000 entry job, even before the conviction.

“Why are such serious crimes like rape sometimes ‘prosecuted’ only internally to the college?”

So what sentence is too much for rape? Perhaps a decade in prison is unnecessarily harsh for college-aged people who have committed such a crime. Perhaps it’s ridiculously lenient that expulsion is all that a convicted rapist gets when a rape is “prosecuted” within the walls of a private institution. Obviously, a college cannot sentence a student to jail time. But perhaps the question here is: why are such serious crimes like rape sometimes “prosecuted” only internally to the college?

I don’t know the answers, and I don’t know what’s right in John Doe’s case, in the UMass Rape Case or how colleges should treat sexual assault at large. But I do know that when you look outside the world of colleges, rape is a crime that is punishable by jail time. And that is a pretty big deal.

Confronting Life's Big Questions

"Oh, I've spent my time pondering my existence, contemplating life and death, wondering what it all means." It's the cliché joke about intellectuals – sitting around at

ECHOES

Alex Newhouse '17 is from Stonington, CO.

a coffeshop or a pub, discussing life's big questions and perhaps smoking cigars and wearing tweed coats. We've all heard it. It's been diffused and diluted to the point where it's nearly meaningless.

But it seems to me that this dilution in thinking about life's big questions has left something of a stigma against actually confronting those questions concretely and directly. Sure, we might talk about life's problems in class, but classes don't necessarily encourage us to personally engage with those problems. It's been rare that I've been challenged or directed to grapple with existential questions in a systematized way in the context of my own life. Private reflection on existential matters has been left largely under the guidance of families or spiritual organizations.

But for a lot – and I would say even most – people, places where they can go to discuss these issues are few and far between. I've had a hard time in my own life finding somewhere I can talk about the problems weighing down my mind. It's hard to bring up personal questions about life and death with a group of friends, let alone in a class setting.

But I don't think it should be that difficult. I think we should become more open to talking directly about our existential

fears and angst, and those questions that plague us as we try to fall asleep at night. If you trust your friends, it should be acceptable to bare your soul for a few moments and discuss your vulnerabilities and those deep, philosophical fears.

Occasionally I've been able to have conversations that touch on some of these issues. But I've almost never witnessed an occasion where someone – or myself – feels comfortable enough to come out and engage completely with them. Have you ever seen someone directly say: "I'm afraid of dying, let's talk about it?" It almost never happens. But it should.

The truth of the matter is that talking with others is the best way to develop our own personal methods of finding meaning and understanding our place in the universe. We can read Sartre and Nietzsche and Kierkegaard all day, but without some sort of dialogue with living people that we care about and trust, and who undoubtedly struggle with the same questions, it's unlikely that we'll be able to come to satisfactory answers. We need the context that comes from people we care about. Personally, I need to hear about how my Christian friend deals with his existential crises, and how my atheist friend deals with hers. I need to converse with someone about how it might not matter at all that the universe is completely and utterly incomprehensible – we can still find meaning in it anyways.

I recently watched a video that laid out Martin Heidegger's existentialist philosophy in a clear, concise and simplified form. I've read about existentialism and its philosophical offspring – absurdism – before,

but watching this video, I actually felt like I got what existentialism and absurdism are trying to explain.

To come to some sort of full comprehension of ourselves and our existence, we must pull the metaphorical veil of human society away from reality. We have to look directly into the black depths of the universe and confront the fact that ultimately, we live on a frighteningly fragile hunk of rock in a galaxy with a black hole at its center, rapidly hurtling out further into the cosmos, occupying a point so small within the entire expanse that it might as well not exist. And we must confront the reality that our lives are so fantastically short with regards to the age of the universe that we might as well not exist on the timeline either – at least on the grand scale of things.

And we must know that this reality is okay. It is completely fine that our lives are meaningless to the universe at large – that we'll almost certainly never understand even a fraction of what is out there. Accepting this is how we understand and better appreciate our own lives, our own microcosms and how our impact – so small on the cosmic scale – is massive on the scale of some significant fraction of the

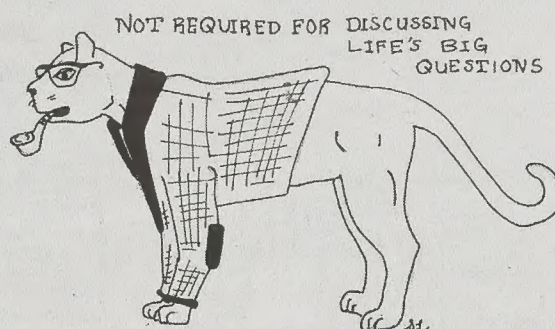
seven billion other microcosms out there.

But if I'm going to pursue that existentialist way of thought, I can't learn how to achieve that acceptance on my own. I need help. I need to be able to turn to my friends in moments of sincerity and seriousness, and I need to be able to ask them, "How do I deal with the meaninglessness of this universe, this planet and everything else?" I need an avenue for confronting that darkness and knowing that there are others nearby who are doing the same.

We should not shy away from engaging with our inner philosophical demons. We should be able to ask ourselves and then

our friends what each of us individually thinks about life and death, and how we will face the inevitable conclusion of our lives. It does not help to simply forget the fact that yes, someday I will die. Rather, I must say to myself, "Sure – I'm going

to die. But how does that affect today? How do I lead a fulfilling, but inherently limited, life?" And then, I should feel comfortable enough to turn to a person I trust and ask them the same questions, thus learning and teaching as we both try to figure out how we each comprehend existence and the universe.



The Master's Tools

PHILOSOPHIE

Sophie Vaughan '17 is from Oakland, CA

This past week I witnessed multiple students, clad in full business attire, walk silently out of the room in the middle of class. At first I was confused (was there some mid-day ball I was missing?) but then remembered abruptly what week it was; so did the two men sitting behind me as a second student left the room. One whispered to the other, "that's our competition."

Getting a job in finance is certainly competitive. Goldman Sachs is purported to extend job offers to only 3 percent of its applicants, a steeper "acceptance rate" than any of the Ivies. With the Center for Careers and Internships (CCI) reporting that, on average, 16 percent of Midd graduates go on to jobs in finance, however, the odds seemed to be stacked in our favor.

The source of our advantage is actually not a huge mystery. On top of the privilege that many students carry with them to campus, Middlebury alumni at Goldman spend the greater part of a week on campus every year recruiting like hell. Students, like the two men leaving class in suits, swoon for the chance at a private preparatory interview.

I myself participated in the Goldman pomp last year and even traveled to New York with a friend to participate in the CCI's annual fall break finance extravaganza in which we, along with many other Middlebury students, were shepherded around to the top firms.

As a member, and now Co-President, of the Socially Responsible Investment Club (SRI) and a partner in last year's charge to revive the "Divestment from Fossil Fuels" movement, my purpose for attending the fall break event and my interest in a career in finance was grounded in a larger theory of change. That is, the idea that one is most powerful as a change-agent reforming a system from within. I thought that by working at Goldman or another top financial institution I could acquire the master's tools and use them to reform the global economic system to be more just and sustainable.

Over the past year, personal reflection on my interests and talents and further study of what it means to make change has compelled me to withdraw from the race to Goldman and instead attempt to reform the system from the outside. My goal here is not to impose my decision on others or judge those who choose to go into finance but merely to present my own thought process

in the hopes that it will allow others to engage and critically analyze their own. I do so with the assumption that people want to use whatever path they choose to make the world a better place.

A significant driver of my past finance ambitions was the promise of access into an elite and complex world whose malpractices I could expose and thus force to change. Writer Bethany McLean began working at Goldman immediately after her graduation from Williams College in the summer of 1992 and has since gone on to write books, such as *All the Devils are Here*, which contended that banks understood the consequences of their unethical practices before the financial crisis but continued anyway. McLean has said that her experience was anything but enjoyable but insists that, "if your long term goal is to fight the financial system, a lack of fear and a little knowledge will increase your odds of success."

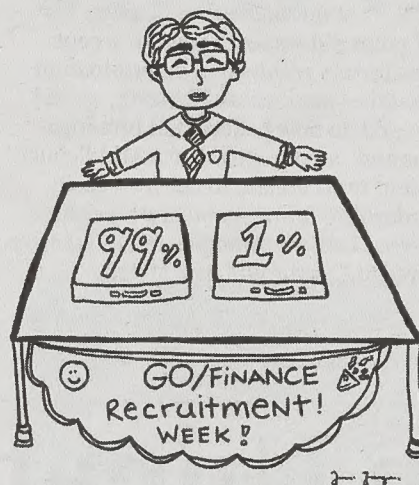
Author Michael Lewis, best known for *Moneyball*, took a similar route working first for Salomon Brothers before leaving to write *Liar's Poker*, a ruthless exposé of the exploitative mortgage bond industry that made the firm wealthy and the culture of lavish greed that characterized Wall Street in the 1980's.

On a different note, Adam Braun translated the "business acumen" he gained from working at a hedge fund to philanthropy. In 2008 Braun founded Pencils of Promise, a nonprofit that has built more than 150 schools across Africa, Asia and Latin America for children living in poverty. Alexandra Peterson Cart '08 left the nonprofit sector for work in finance and then, in 2012, combined the knowledge she gained from both experiences to co-found Madeira Global, an impact investing firm. Money is power and, at this critical point in time when we face a global climate crisis, any tactic that channels capital towards renewable energy development and other such efforts to build a more sustainable world, as Cart is doing, should be aggressively employed.

But I began to harbor doubts as to the necessity of paying my dues at a major bank in order to have a meaningful impact on the world when many of my peers are already having positive and profound experiences without ever gracing Wall Street. As an organizer for the campaign to divest Middlebury's endowment from the top 200 publicly traded fossil fuel companies, I have seen firsthand how the student-powered global divestment movement has forced Wall Street to consider the social and political license given to the

fossil fuel industry through investment, promoted awareness about climate change and grown support for a paradigm shift towards a more sustainable economy.

This past Friday, a group of students and I concerned about our endowment's investment practices met with the Chief Investment Officer of Investure, the company that manages Middlebury's endowment. We suggested that Investure create a fossil-free consortium within the company so that Middlebury and other colleges with hopes of



divesting from fossil fuels, such as Barnard, Dickinson and Smith, can combine our resources in a way that truly benefits our campus communities and the global community, as we purport to consider in our mission statements. We're on the brink of getting Investure to fundamentally change their investment practices and we're only students. And, for the record, we've never worked on Wall Street. In fact, the success of our movement, and really any any movement, depends on collective action, so the fact that we have all worked together outside of the system as opposed to going into the system as individuals means that we have had a greater net impact.

Moreover, throughout the past year I became increasingly attuned to the reality of the monster that is the finance sector. All of the speakers at the Rohatyn Center's symposium on income inequality mentioned the financialization of our economy as a large driver of inequality over the last several decades. The repeal of the Glass-Steagall Act in 1993 resulted in a change in commercial banking that, according to Joseph Stiglitz, allowed the "bigger risk" culture of investment banking to "come out on top" and insert itself

into every part of the economy, sucking the middle class dry. With this in mind, I don't find myself sold on the effectiveness of fighting finance with more finance, especially in light of research revealing that in many cases even microfinance does more harm than good – pushing people further into debt and poverty.

To return to the pro-Wall Street jobs position, one could make the argument that the primary reason for a change-maker student to enter finance is to learn about the industry so she can then turn around and do what is most needed – regulate it more effectively. But after working upwards of 100 hours a week with the same people at the same firm you might not want to hurt them. I know it sounds crazy, but so is Stockholm Syndrome.

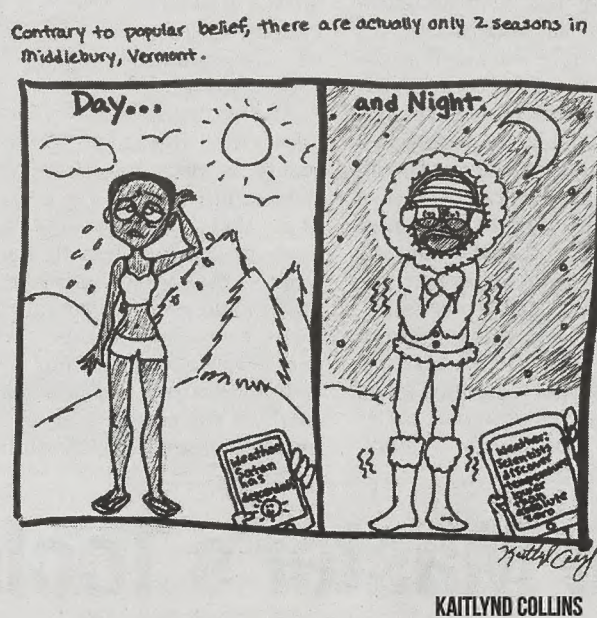
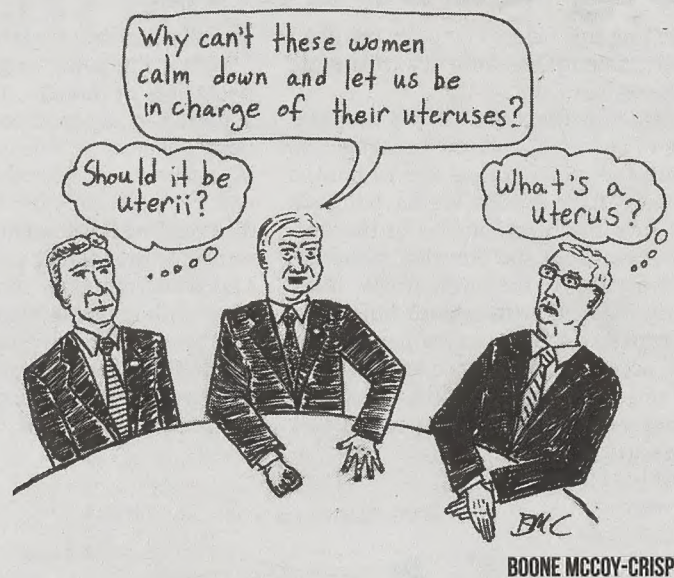
If you're at all concerned about needing to go to Wall Street to regulate the industry just look to Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren, who bypassed the Street on her rise up from humble beginnings in Oklahoma and has proven to be the greatest advocate of financial sector regulation. Warren has worked to instigate a resurgence of the middle class by leading the charge to create the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in 2010 and other measures to increase accountability in the financial sector.

Plus, the notion that a finance job will allow you to unearth some unknown knowledge seems only to reinforce the mystery that surrounds Wall Street, present to keep the average person confused and powerless in the face of exploitation. Just as you don't need to be a scientist to understand climate change I may be so bold as to venture that you don't need to be an investment banker to know that the finance sector as it stands serves the 1% at the expense of the 99%.

More and more stories like that of Billy Parish, a Yale dropout who founded a solar power investment company, lead me to the view of black lesbian feminist activist Audre Lorde, who says, "the master's tools will never dismantle the master's house." Indeed, if we are to build a new just and sustainable economy it will not be some mutation of Wall Street, but born from the grassroots.

Thus, to avoid extending myself further I'll conclude with the hope that we may continue the discussion further as a campus community and most importantly, that if you do go to Wall Street, be armed with the information I have relayed and the resolve to stay conscious of the people you're impacting. If one thing's for sure, it's that our world cannot sustain any more Bernie Madoffs.

Campus Cartoons



Letter from Communications

To the Editor,

While well intentioned, last week's editorial in the *Campus* relied upon several incorrect assumptions and a misreading of the chronology of key events relating to the John Doe case currently before the Federal District Court.

READER OP-ED

Bill Burger is the VP of Communications and Marketing.

The editorial stated repeatedly that Middlebury College "accepted" or "relied upon" the SIT investigation when permitting John Doe to attend the College last spring semester. This is incorrect. As clearly indicated in the sworn affidavits filed publicly and provided to the *Campus*, Middlebury never accepted the findings of the previ-

ous investigation. In fact, in December of 2014, before we learned of the outcome of the SIT hearing, we were contacted by representatives of the original complainant. We initiated our own investigation of the alleged sexual assault less than two weeks after we received evidence from that complainant.

At no time before or after that point did we feel bound to accept investigatory results or a determination by another institution. However, we did then and do now believe that investigations and sanctions against a Middlebury student must adhere to our own basic standards of fairness and appropriate process. That's a principle, not a "massive oversight," as the editorial stated.

Bill Burger
Vice President for Communications

HAVE AN OPINION?

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An Unnatural Death

I have to preface my article with the disclaimer that I did not know Nathan personally.

Last Thursday, I was reading the freshly printed edition of the *Campus*, and I found my attention drawn to the particular use of language in the piece about the planting of a tree in memoriam of Nathan Alexander '17, "who passed away last spring." I took issue with the use of "passed away" in this situation. He didn't simply pass away. This wasn't an acquiescent fade into darkness, but an abrupt end by suicide. Humans have a complicated relationship with death. All animals – by virtue of biological programming – seek to avoid death, yet humans are unique in that they melodramatically dwell on the prospect of a final terminus to being.

We euphemize death, and that's not necessarily problematic. But, in this case, our understandable considerations of sensitivity obscure the truth of the matter. To pass away connotes a peaceful journey to, presumably, something beyond this world.

It presents a dynamism to something final. To say he passed away heavily implies a passiveness to the event, as if his death was the result of a meeting with some impersonal, cosmic force. But he did not die of natural causes. This anodyne language denies the all too human agency that so painfully defines suicide. This didn't just happen. Someone did it. And acknowledging that isn't easy.

The fundamental problem with using language generally reserved for the natural course of events is that it confers a sense of inevitability. However, Nathan's suicide was not an organic event, but a wholly preventable act. He didn't die due to the incessant shortening of his DNA or the relentless oxidative stress visited upon his body; his death was not one of natural, ineluctable bodily decay. Rather, it was a debilitation of spirit. Whereas the body cannot help but decay over time, the spirit can, and often does, remain forever strong. Indeed, the conflict of durability between the body and the spirit is the source of our

aversion to these macabre topics. As Dylan Thomas writes, when we anticipate that the body's time has come, and the spirit must inextricably follow it "into that good night," the still sprightly spirit does not "go gentle," but instead chooses to "rage, rage against the dying of the light." Unfortunately, Nathan's spirit could no longer endure life's tribulations. We grieve so deeply precisely because we feel collectively responsible for having failed to elevate and sustain the spirit of a member of our community and to prevent this tragedy.

I think this nebulous language of "passing" is an indication of our propensity for avoiding discussing difficult issues. We prefer to keep things hush-hush, to sweep things under the rug, as it were. Our discomfort with suicide is the source of the silencing stigmas placed on it, but our attempts to mute the world, in some vague hope that equivocation will bring resolution, only allow problems to fester. No matter how strongly we feel about something, we cannot simply hope away misfor-

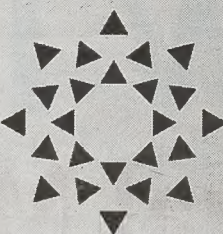
tune, and rejecting reality – albeit a very human act – only has a way of making things worse. The dialogue around mental health is an important one. In the wake of

ARE YOU PONDERING WHAT I'M PONDERING?

David Mnitsa '17
is from Beverly Hills, CA.

this unfortunate event, I have heard promising calls to reignite such discussion. I just ask us to be more aware of the language we use, precisely because it's often a product of habit, is insufficiently reflected upon, and how we use it reflects our as yet uncritically held beliefs. These conversations are obviously difficult, but those are the ones most worth having, and the ones that would most honor Nathan's memory.

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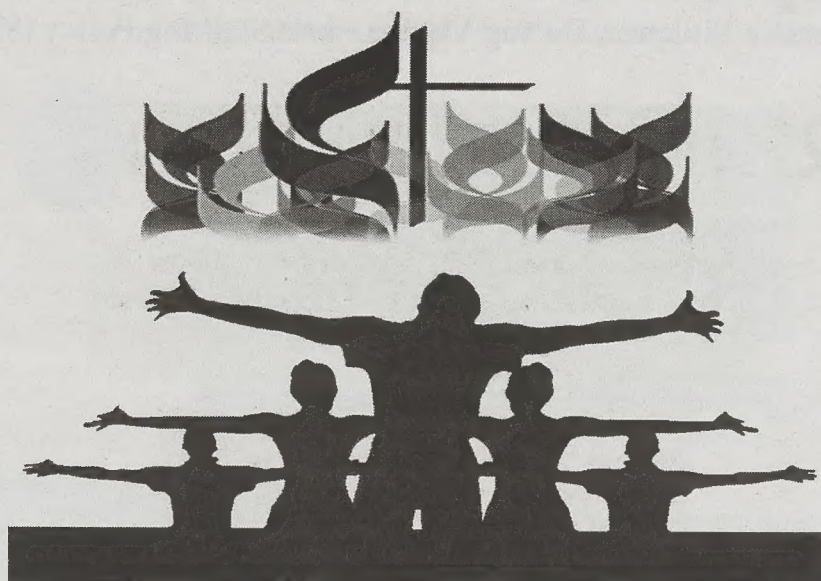
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HOW IT'S HANDLED

Sexual Misconduct on Campus

According to the 2015 Annual Security & Fire Safety Report due to release this week, nine rapes were reported last year, one incident of forced fondling and three incidents of dating violence occurred on the College's campus in 2014.

These statistics are hard to understand without some context. How does the College's sexual assault rate compare to that of other colleges and universities?

A massive survey of over 150,000 college students is making answering that question more clear.

On September 21, 2015, the Association of American Universities, an elite higher education trade group, released the findings of a 27-school sexual assault climate survey, one of the largest surveys about sexual violence among college students in the United States to date. The survey found that about one in ten female college students say they have experienced sexual assault involving penetration, by force or incapacitation.

Specifically, 11.4 percent of undergraduate women and 14.8 percent of LGBTQ students experience sexual assault involving penetration or oral sex. One in five students experience unwanted sexual contact, such as forced kissing or groping, and half to three quarters of students said they had experienced sexual harassment.

The survey also found that risk for sexual assault for females was highest during their freshman year and steadily declined thereafter. Among freshman, 16.9 percent of women reported nonconsensual sexual con-

tact — including penetrative rape, oral sex, kissing or groping — by physical force or incapacitation. That percentage declined to a low of 11.1 percent among senior females.

Finally, the survey revealed that only 28 percent or less of even the most serious sexual assault cases were reported to university officials or law enforcement. Nearly three quarters of assaults went unreported because the victim did not consider the incident "serious enough," they were embarrassed or they did not think the university or police would do anything about it. 150,072 students responded to the survey, which had an overall response rate of 19.3 percent.

These new statistics highlight sexual assault as a significant issue across American college campuses.

Making a specific comparison between the College and this national average is difficult. Concrete figures on the number of unreported sexual assaults at the College are unavailable. Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs and Student Life Karen Guttentag estimates, however, that sexual assault rates at the College are on par with national averages.

Data from annual campus security reports dating back to 2002 reveal that an average of five sexual assaults are reported each year.

Alarmingly, higher rates of sexual assault were reported in 2013 and 2014 — the most recent years for which we have data — than any other years in the past decade. Notably, in 2013, 17 sexual assaults were reported to Public Safety, more than three

times the number reported the year before. Two instances of dating violence were also reported.

So far in 2015, only one instance of sexual assault taking place on the College's campus has been reported to Public Safety. At least one other alleged sexual assault was reported to the College but it took place while a student of the College was abroad, namely the John Doe case.

Vice President of Communications and Marketing Bill Burger asserts that the College is not satisfied even with a low sexual assault rate.

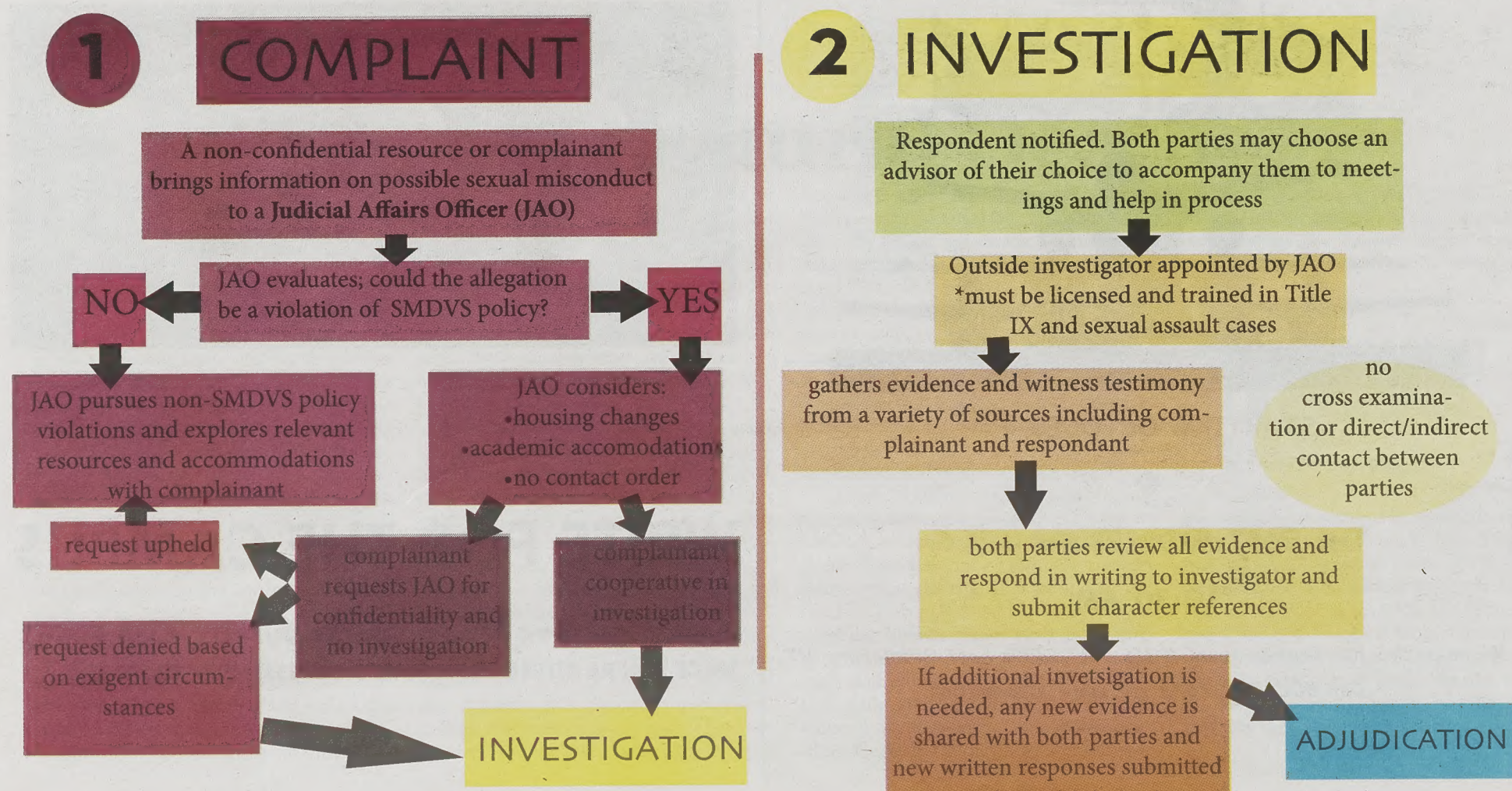
"We will never be satisfied until there are no reports of sexual assault of any kind on our campuses," said Burger. "While we hope the drop in reported cases is a reflection of the education, awareness and prevention programs we have put in place in recent years and of the increased public attention being given to sexual assault on college campuses, we take no comfort in these numbers and we will continue to act aggressively to address the issue."

Associate Professor of Psychology Matthew Kimble has been researching sexual assault and sexual trauma on several northeastern college campuses.

"One thing is clear ... sexual assault occurs on all types of campuses and no campus is immune," said Kimble. "Even if the rates at a given campus were relatively low, there would still be good reason for the community to be ready to respond well when an assault occurs as well as have programs in place to prevent assaults in the future."

What happens when you report a sexual assault?

Here is the process according to the College's Sexual Misconduct, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Policy (SMDVS).



HERE:

GRAPHICS BY CORDELIA PROUVOST
REPORTING BY EMILIE MUNSON,
HYE-JIN KIM AND JACK APOLLO GEORGE



Are you confused by the College's Sexual Misconduct, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Policy? So were we.



Definitions Demystified

The College's Policy against Sexual Misconduct, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking gives the following definitions of sexual assault, rape, fondling and consent.

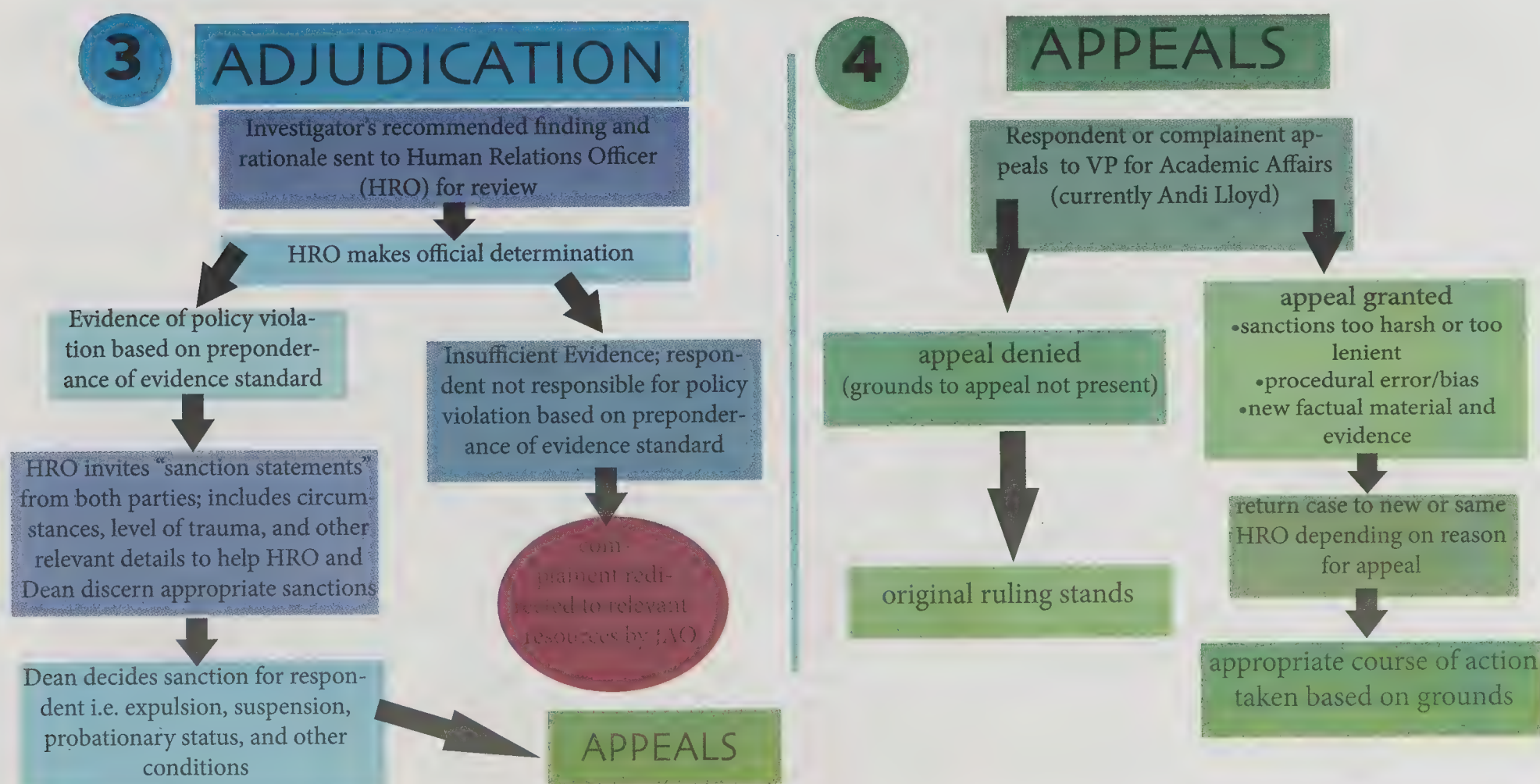
Sexual Assault may be either rape, fondling without consent, incest or statutory rape.

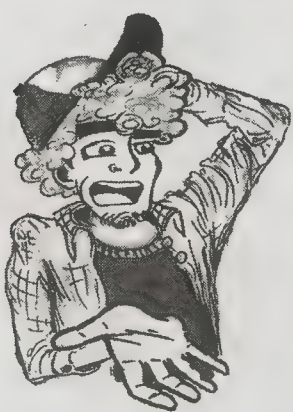
Rape is "the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim."

Fondling is "the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent (as defined below) of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity."

Consent is "words or actions, freely and actively given by each party, which a reasonable person would interpret as a willingness to participate in agreed-upon sexual conduct."

Disclaimer: This is a generalized outline of the College's investigative and judicial process following a complaint of sexual misconduct. All cases are unique and the process may vary depending on the circumstances.





How is it still a (Midd) Thing?

By Charlie Ascher
Senior Columnist

It's Sunday and you decide that you've probably watched one too many episodes of Netflix and need to get some actual work done. If you stay in your room you'll inevitably just end up succumbing to temptation, cracking open that bag of popcorn that you've been staring down all day and ripping through seasons three to six of some show. You keep telling yourself that you're an adult that makes big-person decisions; however, you decide that today is not that day.

Today, you're actually going to do work. You throw everything into your bag, text the other members of your group project, and head to the library. All of that Netflix did a number on your workload, so you really need to get this project done. A study room is just what you need. You walk by the first one: the table is covered in papers and books, but there's no one in there and the light is off.

Ok, maybe that one is taken.

You walk by the second one: there's one person sitting in there, and when you peer in you make eye contact and lock stares for just a fraction too long. You regret everything and move on. All of the next ones are variations on the same thing. Only one of them actually has more than one person inside.

If you are one of the aforementioned study room hoppers, congratulations, you're the subject of my column this week. In short, please stop. I ask, people hogging an entire study room, how is it still a thing?

Here's the deal, they're called group study rooms for a reason. The rooms make it so no one has to hear the lovely discordant sound of your hastily thrown together economics group project getting passive aggressive. If you're doing a group project, by all means, take a study room. Every other person in the library should not be subjected to your fierce debate about which Powerpoint theme to use. (Pro tip: hit up Visiting Assistant Professor of Geology Tom Manley if you want to learn the art of including as many transitions as possible in your Powerpoint presentations. You never thought that your slides needed sound transitions, but they do.)

Things get trickier when you're solo. If you just want a quiet removed room to study in, I get it. Go ahead and work in a study room, just please don't try and make it look like you need the entire room by spreading half of your life's positions over the table and on the chairs. This is essentially the college student equivalent of a male dog peeing on everything to mark its turf. You are not a male dog; please don't spread your stuff all over or pee on the table. If someone looks into the room, don't give them the Clint Eastwood Gran Torino, "get off my lawn," death stare that you've been practicing.

Let's just all be decent human beings about this. Let someone that you might not know enter your study room dojo. It'll be fine; I promise. Thanks. People hogging entire study rooms, how is it still a thing?

Go/Doe, Students Protest Against John Doe's Return

By Jack Apollo George
Features Editor

Last week, students publicly demonstrated their displeasure with the recent John Doe v. Middlebury College ruling from the State of Vermont.

On Thursday night, the words "Doe must go, I stand w/ Jane" were chalked on the pavement leading up to Mead Chapel and the go/doe link was established.

The link — which leads to a simple and clear WordPress blog — allows easy public access to the court documents of Doe's suit against the College. It also encourages students to send "a note to the Trustees, and take a stand on social media." The call to students from the page is best summarized by the tag-line: "it's time for us to determine what our standards are when it comes to sexual violence."

In the John Doe case, a student was accused of sexual assault while on an SIT study abroad program in the fall of 2014. He was found not responsible by the program's own internal investigation. Once he had returned to the College, the alleged victim reached out to the College, who then ran a second investigation that found John Doe responsible and he was to be expelled.

However, on September 16 when sued by John Doe, the College was ordered through federal injunction by a United States District judge to re-

enroll the student, while the legal proceedings continued.

Whilst the campaign perhaps risks appearing as a witch-hunt against the alleged perpetrator — especially through the chalking of a public space — its organizer, who wishes to remain anonymous, states that it was intended more as a way of instigating important conversations.

"The John Doe case does a really interesting thing because it allows us to consider campus sexual assault without necessarily having to worry about the impact [on] the survivor because the survivor isn't on this campus."

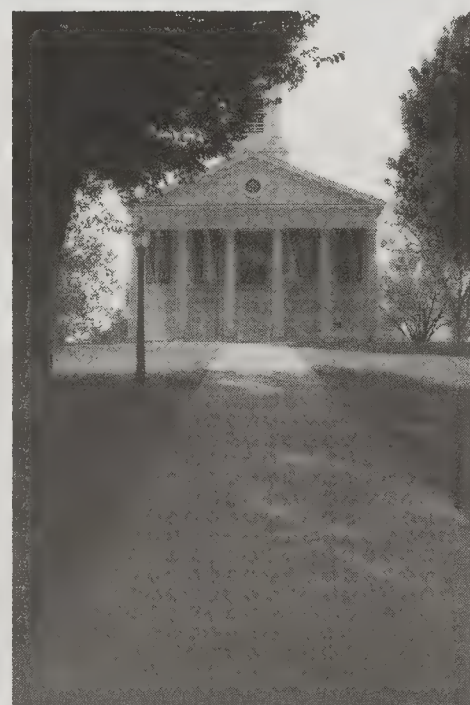
Crucially, the John Doe v. Middlebury case did not actually explore Doe's potential culpability. The student behind go/doe pointed out how possibly the most obvious victim, Jane Doe, was "symbolically annihilated" from the conversation.

"Go/doe is a moment that was spawned through some conversations through very few individuals just feel-

"The John Doe case does a really interesting thing because it allows us to consider campus sexual assault without necessarily having to worry about the impact [on] the survivor because the survivor isn't on this campus."

FOUNDER OF GO/DOE LINK

The Campus critiqued the College's responses to the initial investigations in last week's editorial.



RACHEL FRANK

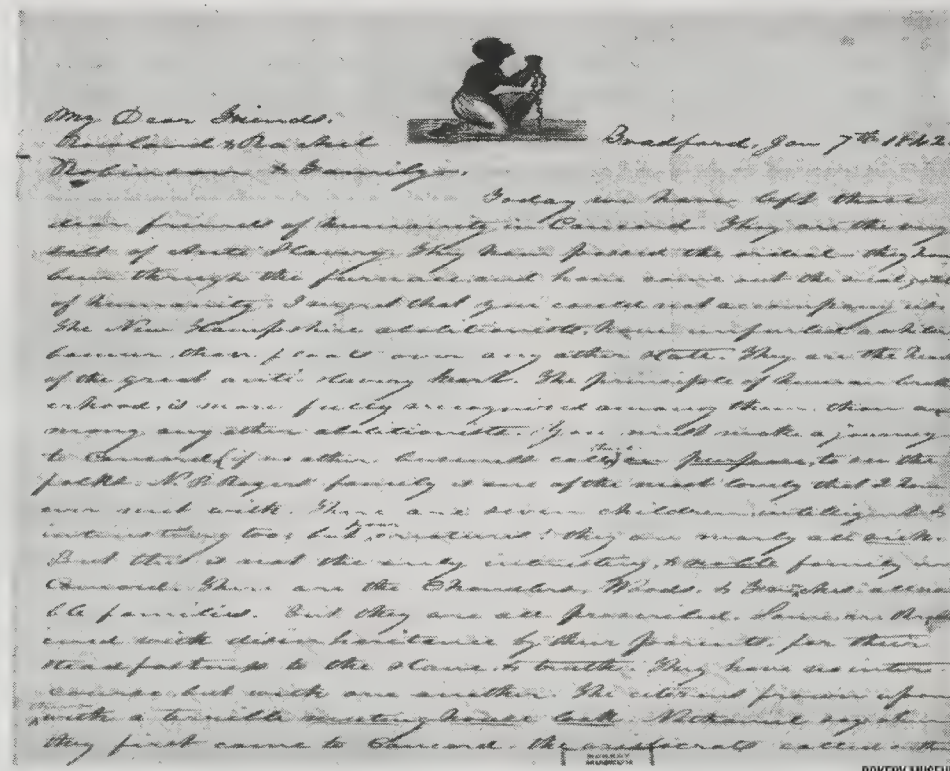
Students chalked "Doe must go. I stand w/ Jane!" outside Mead Chapel last week.

The Student Government Association has also previously pressed for changes to the College's sexual assault policies. Last year, an SGA resolution on sexual respect recommended that investigators record their work so that they can be held accountable through the process. No such changes have been made thus far.

Vice-President for Communications and Marketing Bill Burger says that there are currently no plans to update the Policy against Sexual Misconduct, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking in light of the John Doe case.

Nonetheless, he emphasized that the College has not finished with the controversy: "Middlebury College will comply with order of the federal court in all respects even as we appeal the decision to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals."

LOCAL FAMILY DONATES RUNAWAY SLAVE LETTERS



Some of the 15,000 letters donated to the College feature an Abolitionist-themed letterhead.

By Nicole Hoehle
Contributing Writer

Less than a half hour's drive from the College is an enchanting farmhouse-turned-museum called Rokeby that was once the home of the Robinson family who profoundly influenced Vermont and American history. Middlebury Special Collections at Davis Family Library now has an extensive collection of letters that offers a unique look into the lives of this influential family and their efforts as some of the state's most famous abolitionists.

The 15,000 Robinson family letters offer a detailed, intimate record of correspondence. The letters are remarkably comprehensive, spanning four generations of Robinsons and dating from 1757 to 1962. They are on extended loan from the Rokeby Museum and can be easily accessed by the Middlebury community. Anyone wishing to read these letters should visit Special Collections in Davis Family Library and use an index, organized by letter recipient, to navigate the collection.

The letters present an opportunity to explore the lives of the Robinsons

and their operations of the Rokeby farm property in Ferrisburgh, Vermont. Among Robinson family members are some of Vermont's earliest opponents of slavery. Rowland Thomas Robinson (1796-1879) and Rachel Gilpin Robinson (1799-1862) were devout Quakers and enthusiastic abolitionists who boycotted all slave-made goods. Rowland was a prominent member of the Vermont Anti-Slavery Society and the American Anti-Slavery Society.

Rowland and Rachel Robinson operated the Rokeby property as a safe house along the Underground Railroad where they harbored men, women and children who had escaped slavery in the South. They did so openly, even offering former slaves employment on Rokeby.

"There's a lot of folklore associated with the Underground Railroad," explained Joseph Watson, Preservation Manager and Special Collections Associate at the College.

"Having primary source materials that refer to people in the day, participating in those activities, is rare," he said.

The collection offers valuable insight into the nuts and bolts of abolitionist organization and activities. Scholars engaging with the letters can examine the daily life of Rowland and Rachel Robinson as they worked to enact sweeping social change and alter conventional mindsets.

Engaging with these primary source materials will prove valuable in Professor Will Nash's Reading Slavery

Continued on page 9.

Beyond Body Image Issues: 2015 Clifford Symposium Re-Defines “The ‘Good’ Body”

By Martina Berger
Contributing Writer

Barak adé Soleil crosses to the middle of the stage. The Chicago-based artist smiles infectiously at the audience. “I’m going to ask you to come closer,” he announces. His deep baritone instantly comforts you and makes you trust him. “There is plenty of space up here with me.” A moment of silence ensues, then the sound of one hundred people standing up, grabbing their bags and relocating to the front of the hall. Students hop onto the stage, curling up two or three feet from a still-beaming Soleil.

Suddenly, this is not a lecture. It is a conversation, reminiscent of those summer camp gatherings where you sing songs and roast marshmallows around the fire. Soleil could almost be a student, at least based on the “non-hierarchical space” he has created. Almost. Except then you remember that his legs are thin compared to the rest of his body. That not even the smallest of scuffs tarnishes the pristine surface of his powder blue suede shoes. That he sits there with the rest of us, not on the ground, but in a wheelchair. For all of the College’s attempts to diversify the student body, the physically disabled are extremely under-represented here.

Soleil’s “keynote performance” kick-started the 2015 Clifford Symposium, named in honor of Nicholas Clifford, longstanding professor in the History Department at the College. This year’s theme was “The Good Body,” challenging attendees to consider the process behind how society defines bodies as good or bad. Like many other attendees, Xuan He ’19 was somewhat surprised by the breadth of the discussion.

“I went into the symposium expecting to be lectured on body image issues,” she explained.

In the end, presenters throughout the three-day-long symposium chal-

lenged students to think beyond that, covering material related to race, sexual identity, class distinctions, history, education and many more concepts.

The mediums used for the expression of these ideas were also diverse. Some sessions featured lecturers, others consisted of film screenings. Dance Professor Andrea Olsen held a workshop that combined writing and dance, while choreographer Maree ReMalia provided a class on the Gaga “movement vocabulary.”

After inviting audience members to text him with their thoughts or comments, Soleil began his presentation by asking questions:

“What is a good body?” he wondered. “Is it thin? Is it a race? Is religion attached to it?” He paused, then delved deeper. “Do I have to be pretty to be a good body? Do I need to stand to be a good body, or can I lie on the floor?” At that point, he glanced at his phone. “I’m going to read this text out loud,” he announced. “Is a good body about me, or you?” Soleil considered a moment, then sighed. “Or is it about us?”

He then proceeded to tell a story on the “unfinished legacy” of the racialized, disabled body. He spoke of slaves, confined to a three foot by three foot space for months on end as they made the journey across the Atlantic to the New World.

“Can you imagine how good their bodies must have been to survive that?” he asked. “Good for work. For beating. For sexing. For selling.”

He brought up the history of exhibiting blacks in freak shows and circuses, telling the stories of both Joyce Heth, the supposed 161-year-old nurse of George Washington, and Saartje Baartman, also known as the “Hottentot Venus.”

He spoke of a “mixed” woman who underwent a stringent examination of not only her physical features, but also her sexual purity, her way of speaking

“What is a good body? Is it thin? Is a race? Is religion attached to it?”

BARAK ADÉ SOLEIL



Students participated in a body awareness and exploration activity in Wilson Hall during the Clifford Symposium last week focusing on the idea of “The ‘good’ Body”.

and her ability to dance, all in order to pass as a white woman.

“Why do we keep trying to beat the body ‘good’?” Soleil lamented. “We keep trying to make it work, to make it good, to make it docile and tame.”

These sentiments were echoed in the symposium’s other presentations. Eli Clare, a self-proclaimed gender-queer with cerebral palsy, pointed out that the continuous scientific focus on “the cure” implies that certain bodies are “just fine,” while certain others need to be “fixed.”

Using Caitlyn Jenner as an example, Anson Koch-Rein, Visiting Assistant Professor of Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies, spelled out how only bodies that sustain one’s gender are deemed legitimate by society. Jenner took the extreme route in order to “fix” her body, to make her body “work,” undergoing surgery to legitimize its relationship to her gender.

Overall, the symposium stressed the relationship between social inclusion and the “good” body.

“We define good bodies by thinking about bad bodies,” Clare stated,

explaining that interpretations of good and bad bodies are “grounded in systems of privilege and power.” By defining certain bodies as good and others as bad, by trying to “fix” bad bodies, we inevitably deem some people as belonging, and some others as not belonging.

Clare called on the specific example of higher education in order to relate this issue to the students in the audience.

“Whose body-minds are worthy of sitting in the classroom? Whose body-minds build the buildings? Mow the grass? Clean the bathrooms? Whose body-minds make that classroom possible?”

Much of the student body seemed to accept the idea that society arbitrarily created answers to these questions. In a view representative of many attendees, Gram Bonilla ’17 declared that Soleil “put it best,” when he stated confidently, “When I look at the disabled body, all I see is goodness, truth, people living their lives ... The disabled body is good. I am simply in a social construct that is disabling.”

ROBINSON FAMILY DONATES RUNAWAY SLAVE LETTERS, CONT'D

Continued from page 8.

and Abolition course. Students will be using selected Robinson Family letters to complete original archival research.

“One goal will be to gain perspective on how anti-slavery activists in Vermont carried out the day-to-day work of the struggle,” Nash said. “The other will be to look, where possible, at groups of letters between the Robinsons and particular correspondents with an eye to uncovering what we can about these individuals.”



“Green Mountain State’s” most beloved author Rowland E. Robinson (1833-1990).

Professor Nash’s hope is that by utilizing the letters, his students will be able to contribute to the ongoing scholarly conversation about anti-slavery activism in Vermont.

“However, the collection is not just about the anti-slavery movement and the Underground Railroad,” clarified Watson, careful not to sell the collection short.

Rowland and Rachel Robinson were by no means the only noteworthy members of the Robinson family. The following generation of Robinsons included Rowland Evans Robinson (1833-1990), a prominent Vermont artist and writer. His writing was inspired primarily by his love of nature and his conservation work. By the time of his death in 1900, he had earned the Green Mountain State’s most beloved author award. Some of Rowland E. Robinson’s works are currently part of the “Old Friends and New: Writers in Nature” display at Davis Family Library.

Rachael Robinson Elmer (1878-1919) was likewise a distinguished artist in the Robinson family, and perhaps the most successful. She worked as a book illustrator and is known particularly for her fine art post cards of New

York scenes. Tragically, her life was cut short at the height of her artistic success. In one of the collection’s particularly moving letters, Rachael expressed her concern for her mother’s health. Soon after writing this letter, Rachel became one of the millions whose lives were claimed by the 1918 Influenza Pandemic.

While the Robinson family letters will prove particularly useful to Professor Nash’s course, their application is by no means limited to the field of American Studies.

Jane Williamson, Executive Director at the Rokeby Museum, described the collection as a “gold mine” of social and cultural history. The personal correspondence within the Robinson Family Letters spans topics varying from art history and religious history to personal struggles with mental illness and alcoholism.

Rebekah Irwin, Director of Special Collections and Archives for the Middlebury College Library, believes that the letters will prove useful to scholars across all disciplines.

Today when so much information for potential researchers can be found online, “there is something intimate and rare about working directly with

original, material artifacts,” she said.

The letters possess a particularly strong symbolism for students at Middlebury College. The Robinsons played a meaningful role in Ameri-

“Having primary source materials that refer to people in the day, participating in those activities, is rare.”

JOSEPH WATSON

PRESERVATION MANAGER AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ASSOCIATE

can history despite their rural location in Vermont. Irwin hopes that Middlebury students will be inspired by this family’s story as they consider their own involvement in today’s most prominent social and human rights issues.



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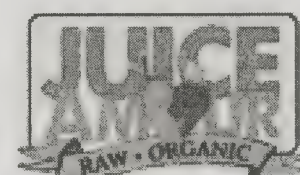
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The Middlebury Campus

Disabled Artist Questions the 'Good' Body

By Mandy Kimm
Staff Writer

One. Two. Three. Four. Motions repeated, counting up to 60, restarting, repeating, repeating.

How long will this continue?
When will it finally end?

These were the questions evoked by "reRace: a movement study," the first piece of Barack adé Soleil's keynote performance of this year's Clifford Symposium "The 'good' Body." In movement, adé Soleil and collaborating dancer Drew Coleman seemed to demand that audience members feel the frustration, confusion and indignation of watching a cycle repeat over and over again. During the post-performance discussion, Soleil tied these emotions to the cycles of racism, discrimination and violence that have continued to perpetuate themselves in our lives.

"If it seemed like it was getting redundant, well, guess what — our lives are becoming redundant," Soleil said, challenging the audience to recognize the impact of our daily actions on the well-worn grooves of societal habit and unquestioning self-absorption.

Soleil's performance served as an invitation to pause and reflect on how we might change our behavior. In the program notes, he expressed his desire to broaden the definitions and interpretations of a good body.

"As a queer disabled artist of color, he is committed to expressing the beauty of the intersectional body as an inherent reflection of humanity," Soleil wrote.

The second piece, "turtle," featured one particularly captivating moment of invitation. As Soleil stood hunched over in the center of the stage, members of the production crew, all clad in black, came to remove his crutches from his hands. Then, nine collaborators rose from their seats in the audience and walked onto the stage to help Soleil from standing position to the floor, before returning to their seats once more. In the post-performance conversation, Soleil described



RACHEL FRANK

Keynote speaker Barak adé Soleil challenged the assumptions surrounding a 'good' body in his interpretive performance.

this moment as representative of others' disregard of his individual will.

"People are always trying to help me. They don't ask — I kid you not — they just touch," he said.

In the piece "objects are objects," the same nine audience participants came one by one onstage to observe "the object": dancer Drew Coleman covered completely in "what appears to be ethnic cloth," as special guest prompter and Assistant Professor of Dance Cristal Brown put it.

While each participant surveyed the human objects, Brown described the participants based on what they were wearing and then read the identifiers they had previously written down about themselves. As the participants observed, they themselves became objects observed by the audience. In this exchange, Soleil managed to open up a space for people to act and self-identify as they wished, all while highlighting the fact that the choice to self-identify is a privilege that not everyone has. The piece cultivated

an awareness of the contrast between the assumptions, judgments and stereotypes we make about people based on visual categories of race, gender and ability (among other identifiers), and the inner sense of identity that cannot be recognized without mutual understanding and respect.

A later piece, entitled "objects are objects," featured yet another collaboration between Soleil and Coleman. Both clad in black, they moved in unison on a blindingly bright white rectangle on the floor, with audible exhales evidencing their exertion. The glaring symbolism of what it means to be black in a white space was emphasized by moments in which either Coleman or Soleil would exit the white space for a moment to observe the other from the black space outside the illuminated white rectangle. During the final moments of the piece, however, Coleman and Soleil came together to move as one body, punctuated by moments of struggle and stiffness. Eventually, they exited the white rectangle to rest in the black space, bringing the piece to a hushed end.

The "message" behind a dance piece is never very simple. From the tactile smoothness of a hand gliding into a shirt sleeve to the tense stillness of a foot paused in mid-air, each movement in Barack Soleil's performance could have evoked an interpretation, emotion or reaction distinct to the life experience of the individual audience member. To write about it, then, is to explore the perceptions of the writer's experience not in an attempt to unpack the performance into discrete units of meaning, but rather to bring attention to any questions or observations that may arise. Dance performance cannot be experienced in a written review, nor can it be summarized objectively — this writing is only to participate in the dialogue incited by the performance as it reverberates in the lives of the experiencers.



RACHEL FRANK

In "objects are objects," adé Soleil collaborated with Drew Coleman to show the dynamics of being black in a white space.

**DON'T
MISS
THIS**

Jay Mead, Art of Sustainability

Commemorating 50 years of environmental education at Middlebury, artist Jay Mead will lead in the making of *Hot and Cold*, a sapling sculpture crafted with community participation, and Hope Wheels, a project of environmental expression in a changing world.

10/1-10/2, 10 A.M. FRANKLIN ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Comics and the Art of Visual Communication

Author and comic artist Scott McCloud will give a visual presentation with emphasis on trends in the history of the comic and its future as an artistic and literary form. Free.

10/2, 12 P.M. DANA AUDITORIUM

Sophie Shao and Friends

Opening the Performing Arts Series' 96th season is acclaimed cellist Sophie Shao, who is joined by Giles Vonsattel, piano; Carmit Zori, violin; and Paul Neubauer, viola. Reserved seating. Tickets \$25 for the public, \$20 for Middlebury ID holders and \$6 for Middlebury students.

10/2, 8 P.M. MAHANEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, CONCERT HALL

Ingoma Beats its Own Drum

By Finne Murphy
Contributing Writer

On Sunday, Sept. 20, Ingoma made its first appearance at the Middlebury A Cappella Jamboree. But rather than mmm-bopping through a Billboard Hot 100, the group performed music from another source: the African continent.

Ingoma, which gets its name from an African drum, was created in the fall of 2013 by Armel Nibasumba '16, Mzwakithi Shongwe '16 and Yuki Takeda '14. They viewed it as a casual singing group that filled a gap they noticed in Middlebury's a cappella scene. Shongwe, one of the two co-presidents, notes that even now, the Middlebury a cappella scene is lacking in a broader spectrum of culture.

"There is still no real Asian music a cappella group," he observed.

Initially, Ingoma was merely a casual way to learn and have fun for its three original members. Their first performance took place at the International Student Organization (ISO) show in the fall of 2013, where Armel, Mzwakithi and Yuki performed a piece called "Shebeleza" by Joe Mafela about the perseverance of the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo. It was not until the spring that the group acquired more members and female vocalists and was able to put on an even bigger performance. At that

point, however, Ingoma remained informal and, as Mzwakithi puts it, "underground." Entry to the group required no audition and they performed mostly with and for international students and students of color.

Things began to change for Ingoma and its members about a year after its founding. Just as the group began to gain steam, Ingoma suffered through a series of challenges, the most difficult being that a large portion of the group either graduated or went abroad.

"We love being a small group... but you need to be big enough so that when half the group leaves, you still have a group," Shongwe explained.

To combat the blow of losing so much talent, the remaining members of Ingoma held their first auditions, and Ingoma was able to recover in time for its second performance at the ISO show in December of 2014.

Now, after making its first appearance at the A Cappella Jamboree and holding another round of auditions, Ingoma looks forward to more growth, more exposure and more music. One of their goals is to record and produce a song to put on their Soundcloud in order to reach a larger audience and garner more interest. In the coming months, Ingoma also plans to add music from the African diaspora to their repertoire. These new genres, which have Southern Gospel,

Caribbean and Afro-Brazilian influence, will expand the cultural identity of the group while staying true to its roots in the African continent.

A goal less tangible than a recording and a larger body of work, however, is to gain more legitimacy as a singing ensemble.

As Shongwe put it, "The big thing is to be taken seriously, which is different from being considered a 'good' a cappella group."

One necessary component of this plan is to encourage more students to audition for a role in the group. Ingoma also hopes that the songs they put on the Internet will incite more invitations to perform on and beyond the Middlebury campus.

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, Shongwe emphasized that for him and his fellow Ingoma members, being taken seriously by others should not mean taking themselves too seriously.

"We have always been super casual," he said. "And that is an element... that we want to retain."

It is easy for people at Middlebury to become caught up in the fast-paced and demanding environment of the school. Finding a casual space to express oneself is a precious opportunity. Ingoma aims to be a relaxing, fun and easygoing outlet for people to make friends and create music that will continue to diversify and liven up the a cappella scene at Middlebury.

FOR THE RECORD

By Devin McGrath-Conwell
Staff Columnist

When the name Annie Lennox is mentioned in conversation, it invariably leads to someone providing their perceived best take on "Sweet Dreams (Are Made of This)," which no one had asked for. When Eurythmics released their second album in 1983, which shares its name with the song, the soaring and haunting voice of Lennox was propelled into the realm of obsession. More than 20 years later that reality has not changed. Outside of her work with Dave Stewart in Eurythmics, Lennox has released six solo albums at a crawling pace, of which *Nostalgia* is the most recent. This one is special, however, because instead of staying within the realm of electronic rock and pop, which she has reigned over for decades, she adds an album of standards to the throng of similar endeavors by aging pop stars. But unlike some, which miss the mark astoundingly (I'm looking at you Rod Stewart), Lennox brings her incomparable panache to a varied pack of songs.

The album opens with "Memphis in June," which takes no time proving that Lennox knows exactly how to light upon each note with a tenderness that brings it to our attention softly: she lays the melody before us with the grace of a performer who sees precisely where it must land. This tenderness is deepened as Lennox lets her soulfulness loose and delivers a synth backed rendition of "Georgia on My Mind." It may not be Ray - no one can ever equal him - but she succeeds because she doesn't try to replicate him. Her musical choices accentuate the longing at the lyrics core in a lovely way.

With the beauty of the first two tracks, Lennox decides to mix it up and unleash the full strength of her voice. With a sparse piano opening that lends intense focus on her voice, "I Put a Spell on You" has an biting funk that outpaces any of the multitude of covers the song has endured. In this track she adds an attitude that should obliterate any doubt of her ability to rock.

From this point on the album settles

NOSTALGIA

into a more subdued, but no less energetic or entertaining string of standards. Above anything else, this album exists as a collection of unexpected choices that Lennox has compiled to touch on an astounding range of emotional registers. The stunning soul of "Georgia on My Mind" has a partner in "God Bless the Child," which reveals what a gospel album from Lennox would sound like. The arrangement begins with the sparseness of accompaniment found across the album, but the track builds into a crescendo adding a peppering of voices and organ behind Lennox, growing into a triumphant choir of sound and fury leaving a powerful impression as the notes fade.

Tapping into quite a different vein of sentiment, "I Cover the Waterfront" and "I Can Dream Can't I" communicate a longing worthy of Patsy Cline. The aching hopefulness of waiting for love without knowing if it shall return becomes visceral in the hands of Lennox on "Waterfront," and in the latter, the emptiness of unrequited love has never sounded quite so heartbroken as it does here. The songs work powerfully as a pair, both featuring lyrics telling tales of love separated by an ocean. The remainder of the album is not left to emptiness and longing, for it holds a tremendous duo of love songs that stand out as highlights on the album. On "The Nearness of You" we find Lennox's voice at her most vulnerable, and my personal favorite track on the album, "You Belong to Me," may be the most openly, sweepingly romantic track Lennox has ever recorded in her esteemed career.

Every track on the album has had every drop of emotion distilled from it and brought forth. The simple fact is that Annie Lennox's voice is so perfectly suited to the collection that it becomes difficult to argue against including her renditions in any discussion of the best. Her technical skill is irrefutable, but it is her instinctual attraction to the evocative emotional strains in songs that allows her to deliver truly spectacular albums time and again, and *Nostalgia* is no exception from that truth. Keep them coming Annie, we will all be waiting.



Ingoma performed at the International Student Showcase last year, showcasing a range of tunes from the African continent.

Arts Spotlight: Performing Arts Series

BY CONNOR
FORREST

Andrea Olsen gives me hope. If you are anything like me, you have also spent countless hours deliberating over various pre-made professions, wondering which hole fits your peg best, only to be frustrated by incompatibility at every turn. Nothing seems to match that idyllic happiness we have always been told to seek without compromise and yet, people like Olsen embody an independence and creativity that discard social expectations and remold the norm.

Olsen has traveled the globe over the past four decades, teaching, touring and creating nature-based dances that reconnect the body with its environment. This Sunday, Oct. 4, at 2:00 p.m. in the Mahaney Center for the Arts (MCA), Olsen will offer the capstone performance of her 33-year career as a professor of dance and environmental studies.

In "Dancing in Wild Places: Seaweed and Ocean Health," Olsen combines her love for the ocean and her passion for dance to avail our minds to the vast underwater gardens appearing along the wrack-line of beaches. The piece is the result of research conducted at seven different seaweed sites around the world. Olsen traveled to France, Ireland, Iceland, Nova Scotia, Florida and the Florida Keys to gather knowledge about the unique underwater flora that supports countless life forms and plays a vital role in stabilizing ocean temperatures.

She went a step further and researched the murky history between seaweed and far-ranging products from gunpowder to iodine to cosmetics, tracing the tentacle effects back-and-forth through time and into your life. The 40 minute dance breaks naturally into seven sections correlating to the seven sites, each rich with a web of information, story

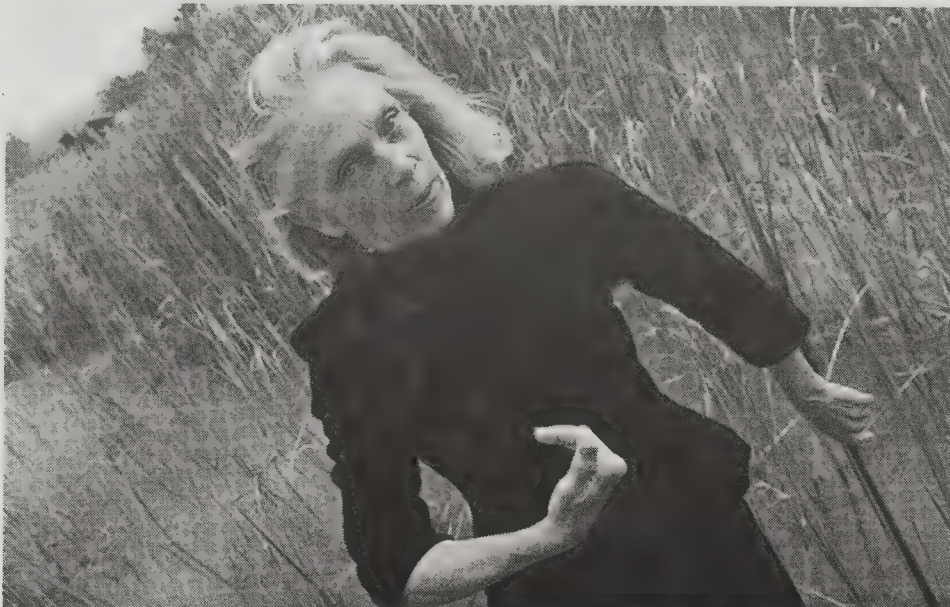
and movement. Olsen invites you to follow her deep into the heritage of the oldest form of life on the planet, algae, as she combines science, story-telling and evocative movement to raise awareness on one of the most critical pieces of ecosystem sustainability.

Not only has Olsen blazed her own trail, but she is also incredibly celebrated for her work. She has earned numerous grants, including a Fulbright Senior Scholar Award, Whiting Fellowship and an ACLS Contemplative Practice Fellowship. Her work has been presented at the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health, the Omega Institute for Holistic Studies and the Sophia Institute.

Olsen's performance is one of the first events to kick off the celebration of 50 Years of Environmental Education and Leader-

ship taking place this October. In 1965, the College created the nation's first Program in Environmental Studies. Fifty years later, the College has risen to the forefront of environmental research and action.

Events ranging from interdisciplinary lectures, film screenings and art installations will celebrate the College's continued commitment to the environment. From the Organic Farm Open House this weekend to a keynote address entitled "Green Jobs Not Jails: Criminal Justice Ecology" by Van Jones, Founder and President of Dream Corps, the next few weeks will present a remarkable degree of thought from various environmental viewpoints. Check out go/es50 for more information on the dozens of events comprising this semester's celebration.



Andrea Olsen's career intertwines environmental research and artistic expression.



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Men's, Women's Tennis Cruise at ITA Regionals

By Alex Deutsch
Staff Writer

Both the Middlebury men's and women's tennis teams hit the courts this past weekend on Sept. 25-27 in the USTA/ITA New England Regional tennis tournaments. The men's team traveled down to Williams College for the weekend, while the ladies stayed home for a beautiful weekend on campus.

Due to ITA seedings and draws, a select amount of players from both teams played in the tournament. For the men's team, Noah Farrell '18, Ari Smolyar '16, Allen Jackson '16, Palmer Campbell '16, Timo van der Geest '18 and William de Quant '18 all saw action.

Smolyar, the fourth seed in the tournament, moved to the quarterfinals before losing to Luke Tercek of Bowdoin College on Saturday. Jackson won his first two matches of the tournament, also moving on to day

two, until he was defeated by Steven Chen of Wesleyan in the round of 16 (3-6, 6-0, 6-2). Van der Geest moved on with his fellow Panthers to day two as well, before losing in the round of 16. DeQuant and Campbell also stood victorious in their first matches before losing in the round of 32.

Sophomore Noah Farrell '18 left Williams Sunday afternoon after winning six straight matches capturing the 2015 USTA/ITA Singles Men's Tennis Regional Championship. Farrell will move onto the Small College Championships at the Palmetto Tennis Center in Sumter, South Carolina Oct. 15-18. The rest of the team will see action next at the Wallach Invitational at Bates College Oct. 9-10.

Back in the Green Mountain State, however, things did not go as well for the Middlebury women's team. In the singles

tournament, three Middlebury players moved on to day two: Lily Bondy '17, Catherine Miller '19, and Christina Puccinelli '19. Miller fell in the quarterfinals to Amherst's Vickie Ip (6-2, 7-6 (4)), while Puccinelli lost to Victoria Yu of Wesleyan (6-3, 6-1).

In the next round, Lily Bondy advanced to play Yu in the semifinals Sunday morning. After two three set match victories Saturday, fans saw Bondy's heroics cease, and she fell (6-4, 6-2). Other Panthers also played this weekend; after losing their first matches, Molly Paradies '19, Lauren Amos '16 and Sadie Shackleford '16 all picked up wins.

Though the weekend did not go as well as the Middlebury women's team would have liked, Amos, a four-year contributor for the Panthers, thought there was reason to remain optimistic.

"I actually thought we had a strong show-

ing at the ITA's," Amos said. "Our freshman class has proven to be very talented and we are excited to see how their addition will impact our season."

In addition to the three new first-years on the team, Middlebury lost only one graduating senior from last year and Amos has high expectations for her squad.

"I think our three new members have the ability to take this program to a new level," said Amos. "Our goal is to win a national championship. Two of my three years here we've made it to the Elite Eight. It's my last year now, and I'm ready to make it all the way. This fall, we're making the necessary preparations to finally make it all the way."

See Amos, the first-year trio, and the rest of the Middlebury women's team take the court again in two weeks when they host the annual Middlebury Invitational Oct. 9-11.

Women's Golf Competes at Mount Holyoke

By Will Case
Senior Writer

The women's golf team traveled south on I-91 last weekend, Sept. 26-27, to The Orchards Golf Club in South Hadley, Massachusetts for Mount Holyoke's fall invitational. The Panthers finished third in the 14-team field and collectively shot 646, good for 70 over par, for the weekend. Williams won the tournament by shooting 605, only 29 over par, for the tournament.

Middlebury's Saturday score of 319, their lowest round this season, allowed them to walk off the course Saturday

evening in second place, two shots ahead of Amherst and four ahead of NYU. However, NYU had a terrific Sunday and cut 11 shots off of their Saturday score to shoot a 312 on Sunday and overtake Middlebury in second place. The Panthers round of 327 on Sunday, however, was good enough to finish five strokes ahead of Amherst.

Katharine Fortin '18 was Middlebury's low scorer for the tournament. She fired a 76 (four over par) on Saturday, putting her four shots off the lead going into the clubhouse Saturday evening and extending her streak to three straight rounds under 80. Fortin lost that streak on Sunday when she shot an 84, 12 over par, but still grabbed her second top ten finish in as many weeks as she tied for tenth place.

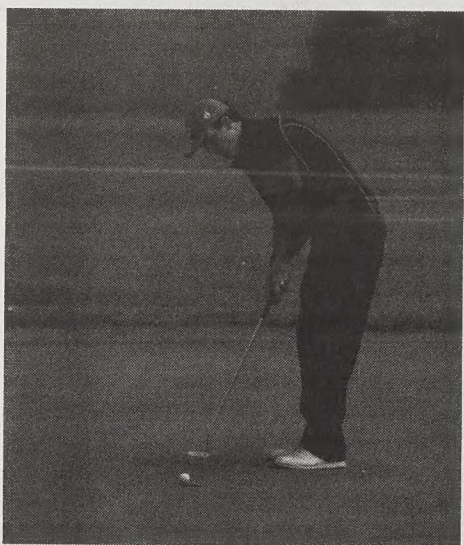
New additions Helen Dailey '19 and Lilia Everson '19 also had productive weekends for the Panthers. Daily, Middlebury's second-lowest scorer, posted rounds of 80 and 82, and finished 18 over par for the weekend. Everson finished the weekend 25 over par with a two-day total of 169, but showed significant improvement from Saturday to Sunday. After shooting a 90 on Saturday, she bounced back on Sunday, firing a 79 for the seventh best round of the day.

Hope Matthews '18, usually the team's number two, struggled this weekend. After shooting rounds of 82 and 79 at the Mount Holyoke Tournament last year,

she shot an 85 on Saturday and an 82 on Sunday to finish the weekend 23 over par. Without the presence of the team's only senior Monica Chow '16 at the tournament, Theodora Yoch '17 was the most senior player who took the course for the Panthers. The inconsistency that plagued Yoch last year reared its ugly face again as sat in eighth place after a 78 on Saturday only to shoot 10 strokes worse on Sunday for an 88. On Sunday Yoch could not keep the pace she set on Saturday, as she added 10 strokes to shoot an 88 and finish in 22nd place.

No team's performance last weekend came close to that of Williams, which has won both of the tournaments Middlebury has participated in. Williams followed up their impressive round of 614 two weeks ago at the NYU Invitational with an astoundingly low score of 605 last weekend. Their success at the Mount Holyoke invite was punctuated by their second round score of 298. All five Ephs players finished in the top five on the individual leader board, led by Cordelia Chan who was four under on Sunday and just one over par for the tournament.

Next up for the women's squad is the Middlebury Invitational at Ralph Myhre Golf Course this Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 2-3. After a weekend off, the men's golf team is primed for NESCAC qualifiers at Williams Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 2-3, where they will begin their defense of the NESCAC title.



MICHAEL O'HARA

The men gear up for the crucial NESCAC Qualifier this weekend Oct. 3-4.

Field Hockey Drops First Game To #2 Polar Bears

By Nicole Roos
Staff Writer

In a battle to maintain a perfect record, the fourth-ranked women's field hockey team traveled to Bowdoin on Saturday to take on the second-ranked Polar Bears. Although Middlebury put up a solid effort, they were unable to beat the Polar Bears and surrendered their undefeated record in a 2-1 loss. Annie Leonard '18, the only Panther to score in Saturday's match-up, offered her thoughts on the game and credited Middlebury's opponent for playing well.

"Bowdoin is a great team," Leonard said, "And going in we knew that it would be a tough game. We played hard, and there were some great things to take away from the game, but unfortunately it wasn't the result we wanted," she added.

Both teams started off strong, and for most of the first half remained even, trading possession and shot opportunities. With just six seconds left in the half, Bowdoin was able to capitalize on a scoring opportunity, and put the Polar Bears up 1-0 when Rachel Kennedy snuck a ball in past Middlebury goalkeeper Emily Miller '17.

The second half played out similarly to the first, with back-and-forth possessions between the two teams, as the Panthers fought to find the equalizing goal. With the clock winding down, Middlebury was finally able to put one in when Leonard capitalized on a

corner. Jillian Green '16 passed the ball in to Leonard with 10:57 remaining on the clock, and Leonard sent the shot in from the top of the circle for her fourth goal of the season.

"With ten minutes left and down a goal," Leonard said, "there was a sense of urgency to score. Coach made a great corner call, Jillian Green made the perfect pass, and I was fortunate enough to be in the right position to make a play."

Although the Polar Bears were awarded two corners in the final ten minutes, Middlebury was able to successfully defend their goal and keep the game tied at 1-1.

The final minutes of the game proved quite thrilling, as Panther goalie Miller made a split save to defend a Bowdoin one-on-one opportunity, and keep the game tied. However, the Polar Bears were awarded a second penalty stroke, and Kennedy scored her second goal of the day when she sent the ball in past Miller in the 66th minute to secure the 2-1 victory.

Bowdoin outshot the Panthers 24-8, with Miller making ten saves and Bowdoin goalie Clara Belitz recording three stops in the Polar Bear win. Middlebury successfully defended 17 Bowdoin corners, while Bowdoin edged the Panthers 17-10 in corner opportunities.

Conference play will resume on Saturday for Middlebury, when the Panthers host the Colby Mules for a NESCAC match-up at 12:00 pm.

Women's Soccer Concedes Sole Goal in Bowdoin Defeat

By Alex Morris
Sports Editor

The Middlebury Women's Soccer team came up short against NESCAC foe Bowdoin, losing 1-0 on Saturday, Sept. 26.

Bouncing back from an arduous week in which the Panthers played a total of 290 minutes in four days, the team travelled to Brunswick, Maine to take on the Polar Bears. From 2009-2013, Middlebury ruled this matchup, defeating Bowdoin six straight times, before losing for the first time in six years last year.

However, the team's youth is still visible, and Head Coach Peter Kim has attributed the team's early difficulties to a steep learning curve.

"We're coming into our own as a team," Kim said "We're young, so we've made some young mistakes. It's a matter of getting some composure to play our style of play and create more goal scoring opportunities."

The lone goal of the game came 20 minutes into the match. After a Polar Bear lofted a pass forward, Kiersten Turner raced into the box to challenge Middlebury keeper Kate Reinmuth '17 on a loose ball in the box. After Reinmuth fumbled the ball, the senior captain was able to tap the ball past Reinmuth and an oncoming Middlebury defender into the back of the net to give Bowdoin the 1-0 advantage.

Turner's effort would prove to be the only goal of the game as neither team could get on

the score sheet in the remaining 70 minutes. Adrianna Gildner '17 almost grabbed one back for the Panthers with just four minutes left in the game, but the Bowdoin goalkeeper just barely kept the attempt out.

"We worked very hard, but overall we played poorly," Kim said. "We lost our composure. Full credit to Bowdoin as they're a very good team, but we have the ability to play a lot better than we did."

Bridget McCarthy was the hero for Bowdoin, making four saves in the opening half to deny Middlebury any opportunities. Reinmuth made a pair of saves in the first 30 minutes before being replaced by Emily Eslinger '18 who finished with three saves of her own.

Bowdoin held a 4-2 edge in corner kicks and 12-9 shot advantage. Hannah Robinson '16 finished with three shots and two on goal to lead the Panthers' offensive efforts.

Kim is looking for his team to work hard in practice this week and come back even stronger.

"We've lost heartbreakers to two important opponents but we still have the bulk of our NESCAC schedule left," Kim said. "The next couple of weeks are crucial; it's too early for us to be too worried about our position in the conference, but we also know we need to start winning games."

Middlebury looks to redeem a NESCAC win when Colby visits Dragone Field on Saturday, Oct. 3.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM
	Emily's Excellent Eight
1	FOOTBALL <i>Starting out on top with NESCAC's Offensive Player of the Week.</i>
2	VOLLEYBALL <i>They have a strong six-game winning streak.</i>
3	MEN'S SOCCER <i>Nice comeback against Hamilton on Tuesday.</i>
4	CROSS COUNTRY <i>We had some fast times at the Purple Valley Classic.</i>
5	FIELD HOCKEY <i>Loosing to Bowdoin was a setback, but the team is still third in the NESCAC.</i>
6	WOMEN'S GOLF <i>Nice job placing third out of 14 teams at Mount Holyoke.</i>
7	TENNIS <i>Only one player out of both teams qualified for Regional Championships.</i>
8	WOMEN'S SOCCER <i>There's some room to improve on their 2-3-1 record.</i>

Cross Country Shines Amongst NESCAC Foes

By Jackie Kearney
Staff Writer

The women and men's cross-country teams competed at the Purple Valley Classic at Williams College this past Saturday, Sept. 26. While the weather was more cooperative than the previous weekend, the Williams course is notori-

BY THE NUMB3RS

337 Passing yards for Matt Milano '16 against Wesleyan on Saturday, Sept. 26.

Kills on the year for volleyball's Becca Raffel '18, the best in the league to-date.

160

0.16 Goals per game being allowed by the men's soccer team right now. What???

Hitting percentage for Melanie English '17. So much volleyball in these numbers.

.373

22 The number of minutes (plus and added .6 of a second) it took Abigail Nadler '19 to run a 6K last weekend - second in the field.

ously "challenging, yet rewarding," according to Erzsie Nagy '17. The women placed second overall in a field of 17 teams and the men placed sixth in a field of 22 teams.

There was intense competition at the Purple Valley Classic including four women's teams that ranked in the top ten and seven men's teams that ranked in the top 25. The women followed only Williams in the competition, placing ahead of MIT, Geneseo State and Amherst. The men followed Amherst, Williams, Geneseo State, MIT and Pomona-Pitzer.

Scoring for the men were Sebastian Matt '16 (22), Miles Meijer '19 (26), Sam Klockenkemper '17 (33), Brian Rich '17 (35) and Tim McGovern '18 (38). Mohamed Hussein of Williams finished first overall.

Middlebury's fourth place finisher, Rich, was thrilled about the competition and the performance of his teammates.

"It was just swell to get out on the course with some great runners. The way we worked together was neat and I hope

we can work as a team in future meets," Rich said.

For the women, the top five finishers were Abigail Nadler '19 (2), Adrian Walsh '16 (12), Erzsebet Nagy '17 (13), Katherine Tercek '16 (14) and Katherine MacCary '19 (25). Lacey Serletti of Williams won the race on the women's side. Nadler continued her streak of top place finishes this week after winning the Aldrich invitational last Saturday. She had another great race this weekend, finishing just seven seconds behind Serletti.

"It was a great experience racing with such strong competition and working with the team to move up throughout the race," Nadler said.

These results show two runners in the women's class of '19 and one in the men's class of '19 scoring for Middlebury Cross Country. The first-year class put in a strong effort the past two weekends.

"Individually, I was really impressed with [Nadler] and [Meijer]," Wilkerson said. "They both raced extremely strong and fast."

Despite great individual performances, the team's performance as a whole were what seemed to stand out to Wilkerson.

"While I would like to praise those two individual performances as outstanding, I thought both teams did really well," Wilkerson said. "Both teams averaged about 25 to 30 seconds faster than we did on this course last year, which happens to be one of the better indicators as to how we are looking. It is still early in the season, and this is a good indicator that our team is stronger than it has been in years past," Wilkerson said when asked about how the team stacked up against some of the bigger teams in the NESCAC.

The team competes at the Paul Short Invitational at Lehigh this Friday, Oct. 2 and the Vermont invitational at Johnson State Saturday, Oct. 3. There will be over 45 teams at the race at Lehigh, with mostly Division I teams and the best Division III teams.

NESCAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK RAFFEL LEADS VOLLEYBALL TO VICTORY

By Rob Erickson
Staff Writer

Panthers' volleyball kept the ball rolling on this past weekend's road trip, extending its winning streak to six games and improving its overall record to 9-2 on the season. Having started the week off on the right foot with a Wednesday win over St. Michael's, the team spent four sets taking care of NESCAC foe Hamilton in Friday's matchup (21-25, 25-16, 25-20, 25-15), notching its first win in conference play this year. After that, Middlebury cleaned up at the Skidmore Classic on Saturday, taking down Ramapo College in five sets and Sage College in four.

Friday's conference win was not without drama, however, as the Panthers had to scramble to get ready in New York after a late arrival threw off their warm-up schedule. Coincidentally, during the 2014 season Hamilton arrived in Middlebury about three hours late, and went on to top the Panthers, 3-1. Facing similar circumstances, Middlebury was angling to turn the tables this time around.

Yet at the beginning, the Panthers

seemed to be unsettled by the hectic rush to get ready. They came out of the gates slowly, dropping the first set 21-25 to the Continentals. However, setter Hannah Blackburn '17 credits what happened next to the team's tenacity and ability to refocus.

"I think we sometimes take a little bit of time to get going," Blackburn said. "But this weekend (and in our other games) the good takeaway is that we have that mental endurance to bounce back," she added.

The Panthers certainly didn't let their slow start dictate the rest of the match; they quickly found their groove, ripping off victories in the next three sets by decisive margins of nine, five and ten points, respectively.

As a team, Middlebury scored its highest hitting percentage of the year, putting up a .381 (compared to Hamilton's .214). Outside hitter Becca Raffel '18 led both sides with 17 kills and pushed her season total to 160 over the weekend, good for tops in the NESCAC. Isabel Sessions '19, also an outside hitter, added 14 kills. Blackburn, the team's starting setter, poured in 40 assists on Friday; she

sits second in the conference with 9.51 assists per set. Lastly, middle blocker Melanie English '17 continued her strong play at the net this season with a pair of blocks. She is currently tied for the NESCAC lead with 1.12 blocks per set.

Looking forward, the Panthers will try to keep up their road success as they face NESCAC foes Trinity (3-6 overall, 0-3 conference) and Wesleyan (4-5, 1-2) on Friday, Oct. 2 and Saturday, Oct. 3.

Although this year's team is young, Blackburn feels that its success will depend largely on its depth.

"For us, having that depth is really good," Blackburn said. "If someone has

a few bad points and needs to be pulled out, being able to give them a breather and have them go back in is something we're going to be working on for the rest of the season. Everyone who's jumped in has been ready to go so far for us, which means we can really use that depth without any 'lag' when someone comes onto the court."

The Panthers will return home the following week, when they warm up with a non-conference game against Skidmore on Tuesday, Oct. 6 before taking on conference foes Amherst on Friday, Oct. 9 and Williams on Saturday, Oct. 10.

"We sometimes take a little bit of time to get going. But this weekend the good takeaway is that we have that mental endurance to bounce back."

HANNAH BLACKBURN '17
CAPTAIN

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL at Wesleyan	28-25 ^W	It wasn't pretty, but a win is a win, as they say.
FIELD HOCKEY at Bowdoin	2-1 ^L	Two heavyweights collide, and the Panthers fall.
MEN'S SOCCER at Bowdoin	0-0 ^{T (20T)}	I don't think defense is a concern for the Panthers. One allowed in six matches.
VOLLEYBALL at Hamilton	3-1 ^W	Part of a three-match sweep this weekend for volleyball.
WOMEN'S GOLF at Mount Holyoke	3rd ^{1/4}	Top-three is a good place to be as the first Women's Championship approaches.

EDITORS' PICKS



ANDREW RIGAS (4-3, .571)



ALEX MORRIS (65-62, .512)



EMILY BUSTARD (36-41, .468)



JOE MACDONALD (56-76, .424)

Which team claims the final playoff spot? Astros, Angels or Twins?

ANGELS
Winning eight of their last 10, they are hot at the right time.

ASTROS
To my parents reading this during parents weekend - Don't let the rankings fool you; I'm the best ed

TWINS
Because I am a twin.

'STROS
Just because they need it. And they get Seattle and Arizona down the stretch.

Will the men's golf squad finish in the top-four at this weekend's NESCAC qualifier?

YES
I can't pick against the defending NESCAC champs.

NO
No really, Mom and Dad, I am good at (some) things.

NO
It'll be close though.

YES
One golfer told me, "We're the best team on campus." Okay. Prove it.

Will men's soccer striker Adam Glaser '17 score on Saturday against Colby?

YES
Glaser looked lethal on Tuesday against Hamilton.

YES
"I don't even try anymore." - Joe. Clearly, with this copycat question.

YES
He's the team's highest scorer so far this season.

ABSOLUTELY
Colby is allowing 1.71 goals against per game - worst in the 'CAC. No-brainer.

Who wins the NHL season opener: Montreal at Toronto

MONTREAL
The rookie makes an early ascent to the top of the picks.

TORONTO
Yeah.... #hockeyrules?

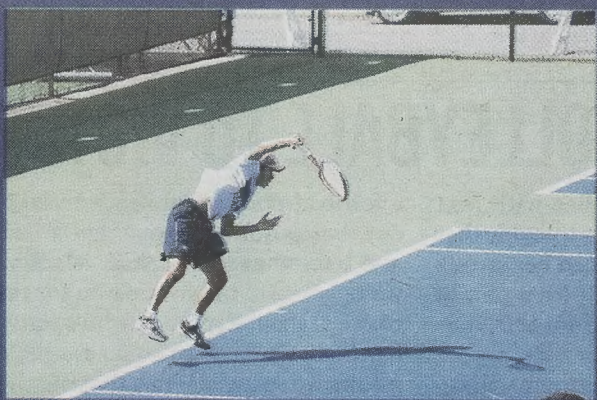
MONTREAL
I don't know much about hockey, but Montreal is a cool city.

TORONTO
Whoa, hockey is back. That was fast.

NOAH FARRELL WINS USTA/ITA NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL SINGLES TITLE

Coming off his singles victory at last week's Middlebury Invitational (pictured below), Noah Farrell '18 became the first Panther since 2009 to win the ITA regional title.

SEE PAGE 18 FOR FULL COVERAGE.



FILE PHOTOS

Football Wins Nailbiter in Opener Against Wesleyan

By Joe MacDonald
Sports Editor

The Panthers overcame deficits of 12 and four points in a nail-biting victory in Middletown, CT against Wesleyan on Saturday, Sept. 26. When the outcome seemed in doubt with just minutes to play, Middlebury took a 28-25 lead on a screen pass from 2014 NESCAC Co-Offensive Player of the Year Matt Milano '16 to Diego Meritus '19. The first-year back took it 43 yards to the house thanks to a couple of huge blocks from right tackle Andy Klarman '17 and slot receiver Conrado Banky '19. Linebacker Wesley Becton '18 put the final nail in the coffin with an interception with just over 1:00 left to play.

Milano and Co. started off like gangbusters, driving 78 yards on the game's opening possession for a touchdown on a six-yard scamper by the quarterback. After that, though, neither team could tally another score in the first quarter.

With the second quarter under way Wesleyan began gaining ground at will on the way to three scores by the middle of the third quarter.

The score should have been 21-7 in favor of Wesleyan, but 2014 All-NESCAC Second Team defensive lineman Gil Araujo '16 just got enough of a hand on the Cardinals' first PAT to keep it out of the uprights. Later the Cardinals' kicker was unable to convert after Wesleyan's third TD, leaving the score at 19-7 in favor of the home team. Those points left on the table would come back to haunt the Cardinals.

The third quarter brought new life to Milano, the team's top returning pass-catcher Ryan Rizzo '17, and Milano's new favorite

red zone target, tight end Trevor Miletich '16. Rizzo racked up 126 yards on five receptions, the second-most yards in the NESCAC on Saturday, and Miletich hauled in two touchdowns, the first of his career.

"What was nice to see [from Miletich] was that the sophistication of his route-running was beyond his experience," Head Coach Bob Ritter said. "We rely on that position a lot, and Matt [Milano] does have a good rapport with him, so we were pretty excited to see that he came up big for us."

The Cardinals continued to pound away on the ground en route to compiling 296 yards rushing in the game, but the Panthers defense kept Wesleyan out of end zone until late in the fourth quarter.

Wesleyan was able to break the plane with 5:49 left in the contest to take a four-point lead, 25-21. Because of the two failed extra points earlier in the game, Wesleyan elected to attempt a two-point conversion, but the pass fell incomplete and the score stood pat. Had the Cardinals been able to make a PAT on each occasion, they would have led by seven and the game may have ended differently.

As it were, the Panthers started off its game-winning drive at the 25-yard line. Milano and gang made quick work marching down the field. Banky hauled in a 15-yard catch on the drive's initial snap. On the next play, Meritus took the handoff and was gobbled up after just a two-yard gain, but a personal foul on the defense advanced the football to the Wesleyan 43. Meritus immediately followed that up with the dagger on his 43-yard trot to the end zone.

Now up 28-25, Middlebury was in a position to seal the deal by playing good defense. The Panthers did just that, forcing a three-and-out on the Cardinals next possession, but the offense was unable to move the ball and kicked it right back to Wesleyan after a three-play, five-yard, 58 second drive. The Cardinals took the ball with 2:06 remaining and 81 yards to go to the end zone, and the opportunity to kick a game-tying field goal.

The Panthers defense stepped up once again, forcing the Cardinals into a 4th and 13 situation with the game on the line. Becton closed the book on the Cards by picking off an errant throw from Hawkins. Even though the defense bent throughout much of the second and third quarter, it did not break when it counted.

"When you're on defense," Ritter said, "it's always hard going into the first game, because there are scheme things you can't anticipate or you haven't seen before. And so I think our guys came up big when they had to and learned on the run as the game went on."

Milano finished the game 23-34 with 337 yards and a 3-0 touchdown-interception record, while Rizzo led the team in receptions and receiving yards. Rookie kicker Charlie Gordon '19 was a perfect 4-4 on extra points. Tim Patricia '16 led the team in stops, with 12 stops and one interception, and was followed closely by safety Dan Pierce '16 (11 tackles, one sack) and linebacker Addison Pierce '17 (10 tackles).

The football team has now won its last six contests dating back to last season, and will play Colby (0-1) this Saturday, Oct. 3. The Mules were stomped by Trinity, 34-0, in their season opener last Saturday.

Men's Soccer Ties Bowdoin in Two OT

By Andrew Rigas
Sports Editor

The Middlebury men's soccer team fought Bowdoin to a draw on Saturday, Sept. 26 in Brunswick, Maine as neither the Panthers nor the Polar Bears could muster up a goal in 110 minutes of action. Then the Panther offense erupted in a big way at home against Hamilton on Tuesday, Sept. 29, scoring four unanswered goals en route to a 4-2 win.

Evenly matched from the start, Bowdoin had the first good scoring opportunity in the 10th minute when Connor Keefe blistered a shot off the left post and out of play. Center back Deklan Robinson '16 provided Middlebury's best opportunities in the first half, coming forward on corner kicks to just miss on headers.

Both Greg Conrad '17 and Kirk Horton '17 almost scored the decisive goal, but Bowdoin keeper Stevie Van Siclen was there and regulation ended in a scoreless tie. While Middlebury just could not put one past Van Siclen, Robinson, a team captain, believes the team is generating scoring opportunities.

"We just need to find a way to score a goal in close games like that," Robinson said. "We have plenty of attacking talent and we're dangerous on set pieces so the goals will come. We just need to capitalize on our chances."

Greg Sydor '17 continued his sensational play between the posts for the Panthers, making a save in each overtime period. After regulation and two 10 minute overtime periods, the hotly-contested battle ended in a scoreless draw. Sydor and the Panthers recorded their fifth shutout in six games and have only conceded one goal all year.

"I think we're a big, physical team and we defend well in all areas of the field, not just in the back," Robinson said. "We've made that a point of emphasis this year and it's something that we take a lot of pride in as a team."

It was a different story in the scoring department for the Panthers on Tuesday when they played host to Hamilton. In the midst of a steady rainfall, the game opened as a wide open affair with neither team showing the ability to control the ball and move it forward effectively. In the 13th minute, the Continentals mounted a quick counter attack that led to the first goal of the game.

The Panthers did not lose their composure though and began to control the game with patience on the ball, probing the Hamilton defense and pressing deep in Hamilton's half. That pressure paid off twice in the first half when Glaser and Tom Bean '17 both scored on beautiful volleys to give Middlebury a 2-1 lead going into halftime.

The Panthers added two more goals in the second half when Daniel O'Grady '19 set Conrad up and Robinson fired in a penalty kick to build a comfortable 4-1 lead. Hamilton got one back when Alec Talsania's shot from 18 yards out slipped through Sydor's hands and just barely cleared the goalline. Despite Sydor's uncharacteristic miscue, Middlebury controlled the game and easily held on to win 4-2.

The Panthers move into a tie for fourth place in the NESCAC standings with a 2-1-1 record (5-1-1 overall), and have a chance to move up when they host Colby on Saturday, Sept. 3.

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